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Japan

Reactions to Attack on Iraq Reported

Tokyo 'Understands' Action

OW1401001593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0006 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—The Japanese Government on Thursday said it "understands" the reasons behind the United States-led air strike into Iraq, but does not expect the action to escalate much further.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, currently in Paris, remarked that the strike, on Wednesday evening in Iraq (early Thursday Japan time) "was taken to ensure the execution of the United Nations resolutions (against Iraq)," adding that he "understands" the coalition strike into Iraq.

In Tokyo, Foreign Ministry sources said the attack was a limited action to punish Iraq and suggested that Baghdad does not likely have the ability to mount a real counterattack.

On Tuesday, the Foreign Ministry summoned Iraqi Ambassador Rashid Al-Risai to express its concern over repeated Iraqi violations of the U.N. resolutions.

The government may change the itinerary of Crown Prince Naruhito's planned visit to six Middle East countries in late January, government sources said.

The imperial household agency will consult the Foreign Ministry over the trip and may omit Kuwait from the countries to be visited if the situation further deteriorates, the sources said.

The crown prince is scheduled to leave Tokyo for Oman on January 22 and then visit Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. He is scheduled to arrive in Kuwait on February 2 and return to Tokyo on February 4.

The tour of the six Persian Gulf states may be the 32-year-old prince's last overseas trip as a bachelor.

On January 19, three days before his departure, the Imperial Household Council, the top decision-making body on important matters concerning the royal family, will convene and is expected to officially sanction the prince's engagement to 29-year-old diplomat Masako Owada.

'Supports' Air Strike

OW1401035393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0334 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Thursday he "understands" why a U.S.-led coalition launched an air raid into southern Iraq and blamed Baghdad's "provocative attitude" for the need to strike Iraqi missile sites.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, who is currently in Paris, echoed the sentiments of Miyazawa, who is in Kuala Lumpur on the second leg of a Southeast Asian tour.

In the Malaysian capital, Miyazawa said, "this limited military action by coalition forces was taken to ensure the execution of the United Nations resolutions (against Iraq)."

He said he "understands" the strike and was contacted by the United States about the raid that occurred late Wednesday night, though he was not directly contacted by U.S. President George Bush.

"Despite repeated warnings from the U.N. Security Council, Iraq again and again violated U.N. resolutions and continued to take a provocative attitude against the consensus opinion of international society," Miyazawa said.

Meanwhile in Paris, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe offered a similar assessment of the multinational strike.

In Tokyo, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said the government "understands and supports the air strike" after a meeting of executives of the Security Council was held at the prime minister's residence to discuss the raid.

Kono said in a statement the government hopes Iraq will honor the U.N. resolutions.

Kono told a press conference that the government has no plan at the present to change the itinerary of Crown Prince Naruhito's planned visit to six Middle East countries in late January.

[passage omitted]

Urges Iraq To Adhere to Resolutions

OW1401121493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1156 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japan urged Iraq on Thursday to fully abide by UN Security Council resolutions to prevent its current confrontation with members of the U.S.-led allied coalition from escalating, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada issued the warning in a meeting with Iraqi Ambassador to Japan Rashid al-Rifa'i, who was summoned to the ministry for the second time this week.

Owada, father to Crown Prince Naruhito's bride-to-be Masako Owada, told al-Rifa'i that how events develop in the wake of Wednesday night's allied air raid depends largely on Baghdad.

He was quoted as saying it is "not too late," even at the present juncture, for the Iraqi Government to take steps to deescalate the tense situation.

The officials said Owada reiterated Japan's support for the punitive steps so far taken by the allied coalition forces, saying Japan regards them as a restrained effort to enforce the relevant Security Council resolutions.

He asked the Iraqi envoy to convey to his government Japan's belief that the current situation arose from Iraq's violations of the "language and provisions" of those resolutions.

Al-Rifa'i responded that the bombing could not be justified by the resolutions.

He told Owada that Baghdad has respected the resolutions in so far as the means of their implementation does not undermine the sovereign status of the country.

The Iraqi envoy accused the United States, Britain and France of taking military action against Iraq on their own accord, without basis in international law.

Owada reiterated Japan's dissatisfaction over recent Iraqi incursions into UN-declared Kuwaiti territory and Baghdad's decree banning UN-chartered planes from flying over its territory to check for weapons of mass destruction, the officials said.

Just prior to the meeting, al-Rifa'i told reporters Japan, as a "responsible international entity," should oppose aggressive tactics and speak out in favor of peaceful negotiations.

He slammed the allied coalition countries for their "flexing of the muscles."

Iraqi Envoy on Tokyo's Comments

OW1401104093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1013 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Iraqi Ambassador to Japan Rashid al-Rifa'i on Thursday denounced the U.S.-led allied coalition's bombing of his country and expressed regret over the Japanese Government's support of the action.

"Japan is now a responsible international entity and we hope that it will opt for measures that are against aggression and with peace," the envoy said.

Al-Rifai made the remarks to reporters at the Foreign Ministry prior to his meeting with Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada.

The Iraqi ambassador said he would urge Japan to support peaceful negotiations to resolve disputes and to take a stand against the "flexing of the muscles of the big powers."

"I'm going to ask for his (Owada's) denunciation of the American aggression and ask for support for our people," he said, noting that he was "so far, unfortunately" dissatisfied with the Japanese stance.

The ambassador was being summoned to the ministry for the second time in a week.

On Tuesday, he met another Foreign Ministry official to hear Japan's dissatisfaction over Iraqi incursions into U.N.-declared Kuwaiti territory and Baghdad's decree banning U.N.-chartered planes from flying over its territory to check for weapons of mass destruction.

Raid's Economic Impact Viewed

OW1401045093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0440 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—The overnight air strikes on Iraq will have almost no effect on the Japanese economy because Iraqi oil is currently not exported to Japan, a senior trade ministry official said Thursday.

If Iraq starts attacking Kuwait, however, some turbulence in the economy is expected, said the official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

The air raid may temporarily lead to increased crude oil prices. But with Saudi Arabia and Mexico stepping up oil output since the Persian Gulf war in 1990, wild fluctuation is unlikely, he said.

According to the ministry's agency of natural resources and energy, no Iraqi crude oil has been exported to Japan since the 1990 war.

Japan's imports of Kuwaiti oil have also been relatively low, with daily volume last year reaching only 140,000 barrels, 3.3 percent of overall imports.

On the supply-demand side, the global oil market has an oversupply, as peak demand remains weak even at the winter peak due to the ongoing business slump worldwide.

Concern Over Possible Aid Request

OW1401110093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1051 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japan is concerned that the U.S.-led coalition in the Persian Gulf may ask Tokyo for funds to help finance the stationing of allied forces in the region, government sources said Thursday.

They noted that unlike the Gulf war in 1991, Wednesday's attacks by over 100 U.S., British and French warplanes on Iraqi missile sites went ahead without the backing of a UN resolution.

The officials fear that further military action could lead to the permanent stationing of coalition troops and Japan being asked to share the cost.

One official said Japan's financial cooperation will not be an issue for now if the overnight U.S.-led air attacks against Iraq remain a limited operation.

Japan disbursed a total of 11 billion dollars for the U.S.-led multinational forces during the Gulf crisis in addition to 2 billion dollars in economic assistance to the frontline states of Egypt, Jordan and Turkey.

Meanwhile, Defense Agency Director General Toshio Nakayama indicated that Japan has no plans to send Self-Defense Forces personnel to the Gulf region.

He expressed support for the coalition action, saying Iraq repeatedly violated UN Security Council resolutions despite frequent warnings.

Japan will continue to urge Iraq to refrain from such behavior, he said.

Protesters Urge End to Bombing

OW1401055993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0522 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—A small group of demonstrators protested outside the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo on Thursday against the U.S.-led bombing raid on Iraq, calling for an end to such attacks and warning against a fresh outbreak of the Persian Gulf war.

The group, outnumbered by television camera crew members and photographers, represented a number of peace organizations, including an association of women opposed to the dispatch of Japanese Self-Defense Forces overseas.

Protesters carried banners condemning the U.S., Britain, and France for the air raid Wednesday night local time against missile sites in southern Iraq.

Gathering before the embassy in light rain shortly before 1 P.M., they also stopped curious passers-by to show them glossy blowups of bombing damage apparently from the Persian Gulf conflict.

Meanwhile, the antiwar Peace Ring organization, in a declaration sent to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa as well as to the U.S., Britain and France, condemned the bombing as being motivated by a quest for oil rights.

"The bombing is an oppressive measure based on the strong desire for leadership in oil rights," the declaration read, adding "Arab problems should be left to the Arab people."

Peace Ring has organized a number of demonstrations at U.S. and Japanese military installations in Japan in which protesters join hands to form a circle around the military base.

Toyota Plans Parts Purchases From U.S.

OW1401094293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0924 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Nagoya, Jan. 14 KYODO—Toyota Motor Corp. disclosed plans Thursday to increase its auto parts purchases from General Motors Corp. of the United States in fiscal 1994 to 370 million dollars, up 38 percent from fiscal 1991.

The top Japanese automaker said the plan for the year starting on April 1, 1994, is intended to help alleviate Japan-U.S. friction over automobile trade and to strengthen its cooperation with GM.

Toyota has so far purchased from GM car parts such as batteries, seats, and bumpers.

In fiscal 1994, Toyota will also buy antilock brake systems, pressure sensors, and other electronic control parts for use at its joint-venture auto assembly plant with GM in California and its own plant in Kentucky, company officials said.

At the same time, Toyota will promote imports of parts for its domestic plants, they said.

Through these and other plans, Toyota expects to increase its total purchases of parts and materials from the U.S. in fiscal 1994 to 5.28 billion dollars, up 68 percent from 3.14 billion dollars in fiscal 1991.

The company is also negotiating with the auto parts divisions of Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler Corp. on its plans to increase parts purchases from them, the officials said.

Tokyo on India's, Pakistan's Nuclear Arms Programs

OW1401115193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1117 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japan may use its foreign aid program as diplomatic leverage to urge a halt to the alleged nuclear weapons development programs of Pakistan and India, government officials said Thursday.

The government will send Mitsuro Donowaki, Japan's ambassador for arms control and disarmament, to India and Pakistan in early February to urge the two to ink the 1968 nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT), a treaty obligating its signatories to conduct nuclear disarmament, the officials said.

The Japanese emissary will tell the two countries that Tokyo may cut off its official development assistance (ODA) unless they comply with requests to put a brake on their alleged nuclear weapons development programs, they said.

Both countries officially deny they have a nuclear weapons program.

The effort to persuade the two countries to scrap the programs stems from Japan's four policy guidelines of linking ODA to recipient nations' readiness to stop development and production of nuclear arms, along with other conditions qualifying them as recipients.

The government of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa adopted the four guidelines last June, the three others being recipients' willingness to reduce high levels of military expenditure, to stop arms exports and imports, and to stop political repression.

Miyazawa urged both Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao and Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif to sign the NPT when they visited Tokyo last June and December, respectively.

Rao rejected the request, saying the NPT is unfair as it fails to obligate countries with nuclear weapons to scrap their existing arsenals.

Sharif also turned down Miyazawa's request, saying that should Pakistan join the NPT, it would be put at a strategic disadvantage as its rival India is not a signatory to the treaty. However, both nations agreed to continue talks with Japan on the NPT matter, they said.

Japan gave New Delhi a total of 891 million dollars worth of ODA in 1991 alone. Tokyo expressed readiness to lend an additional 111.9 billion yen during Rao's visit.

Japan provided Islamabad with a total of 127 million dollars in ODA disbursement in 1991. During Sharif's visit, Miyazawa offered an additional 100 million dollars.

Nuclear Energy Talks With ROK Planned

OW1401104893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0949 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japan and South Korea will hold talks in Seoul next Tuesday and Wednesday about harnessing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

Officials said the talks will take up each country's nuclear policy, including Japan's intentions to accumulate plutonium, the transfer of Japanese expertise on nuclear power plant safety, and other cooperative endeavors in the field of nuclear energy.

The Japanese delegates are expected to explain the government's policy behind a recent shipment of a ton of plutonium from France.

The shipment was the first of more than 30 tons that Japan plans to transport from France and Britain over the next decade.

A South Korean Foreign Ministry official voiced concern earlier about the safety of Japan's plutonium shipments, but he accepted that Japan's motives are nonmilitary.

The talks, the third of a series, were last held in Tokyo in November 1991.

Komeito To Debate Review of Constitution

OW1401145093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1435 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japan's No. 2 opposition party Komeito said Thursday it will start in-depth discussions on reviewing the country's Constitution, whose "renunciation of war" clause has long been a focus of controversy.

Komeito's announcement followed the governing Liberal Democratic Party's decision on Wednesday to propose the creation of an inter-party panel to review the Constitution.

Komeito Secretary General Yuichi Ichikawa told reporters it is no longer appropriate to regard the Constitution as an effectively permanent law code, noting that the cold war is over and Japan's role in the international community is changing.

Ichikawa also said there is no longer a need to regard discussions on Article 9 as "taboo."

Article 9 stipulates "the Japanese people forever renounces war...and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes." It says, "Land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained."

Ichikawa said the Constitution does not necessarily suit present circumstances and needs to be reviewed, noting that it contains no stipulations on environmental rights and that the decentralization of power must be promoted.

Meanwhile, Justice Minister Masaharu Gotoda was cautious toward an early amendment of the Constitution, saying it is more important to discuss the direction Japan should take given the new international situation.

At a press conference in Tokushima, Gotoda said the issue should be discussed in an orderly manner, opposing the idea of bringing it quickly before the Diet.

Since its establishment through the merger of two conservative parties in 1955, the LDP has basically aimed at revising the Constitution's Article 9. LDP-controlled governments have continued defense build-ups to strengthen the Self-Defense Forces.

The main opposition party, the Social Democratic Party, which has opposed both the SDF and security arrangements with the United States, argues in defense of the present Constitution.

On Wednesday, LDP sources said the ruling party's policy board chairman, Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, will soon unveil a proposal on the establishment of the inter-party panel on the Constitution to help encourage debate on Japan's international contributions.

The sources said Mitsuzuka will make the proposal during a question-and-answer period at the outset of the regular Diet session, which opens January 22.

JAL on 5-Year Cutback, Delay in Purchases

OW1401125793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1151 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japan Airlines Co. (JAL) announced Thursday a five-year intensive streamlining plan, including delaying purchase of 25 Boeing jumbo jets, in an effort to beat back a tide of red ink.

JAL, facing a loss of 50 billion yen for fiscal 1992, will trim investment in airplanes and ground facilities between fiscal 1993 and fiscal 1997 to 1 trillion yen from the originally planned 1.6 trillion yen.

The streamlining plan includes saving 450 billion yen in the five-year period by delaying the introduction of 25 additional B747-400 aircraft.

Other measures include a reduction of investment in ground facilities at Narita, Haneda and Osaka airports.

As a cost-cutting measure, Japan's leading airline company will also boost the percentage of non-Japanese cabin attendants it employs to 30 percent from the current 7 percent.

JAL will also freeze new employment for ground jobs for fiscal 1994, although it will recruit 250 ground staff in fiscal 1993.

The company said it will increase the share of domestic operations in its overall revenue to 40 percent from the current 30 percent as domestic service is more profitable than international service.

This will be done by creating new domestic flight services and increasing the number of domestic flights.

JAL projects a pretax loss of some 50 billion yen for the current fiscal year ending March 31. It aims to break even in fiscal 1993 and return to profit the following year, officials said.

North Korea

Pyongyang Radio Reports U.S.-Led Strike on Iraqi Targets

SK1401121093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1115 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] According to reports, the multinational forces led by the United States attacked Iraqi military targets on 13 January.

A White House spokesman announced that day that the airplanes of the multinational forces led by the United States had struck antiaircraft missiles and their related facilities in southern Iraq. The spokesman also stated that during a meeting with his key advisers on 11 January, U.S. President Bush ordered this bombing raid. He also gave instructions to send approximately 600 to 800 of the U.S. special mobile strike forces to Kuwait on an emergency basis.

According to foreign news reports, the U.S. aircraft carrier "Kitty Hawk" based in Persian Gulf waters, U.S. military planes that took off from Air Force bases in Saudi Arabia, and dozens of British and French fighters participated in this bombing raid.

The U.S. NBC Television Network reported that the bombing raid on Iraq was completed approximately three hours after it had begun. Foreign news agencies reported that this bombing raid was launched in response to Iraq's refusal to heed the warning on stopping the deployment of antiaircraft missiles close to the no-fly zone in southern Iraq that the multinational forces unilaterally set up. They also reported that the United States had stated that if Iraq continues such a challenge, it would take additional strong measures with the multinational forces. They also reported that this bombing raid by the multinational forces was launched after a U.S. Defense Department spokesman had denounced Iraq for infiltrating Kuwaiti territory on three occasions from 10 to 12 January. The Iraqis had taken away missiles and other weapons that it had left behind during the Persian Gulf war.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn delivered a speech on 13 January over Baghdad radio after the bombing raid of the multinational forces led by the United States. He declared that the U.S. aggressors and their allies have attacked the antiaircraft forces in southern Iraq, that the holy war has started again, and that the aggressors would be defeated.

Choe U-chin Rejects South's Proposal for Member's Contact

SK1401112293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1109 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—Choe U-chin, North-side chairman of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee, sent a telephone message today to his South Korean counterpart, Kong No- myong.

It is fortunate that the South side has shown an affirmative reaction, though conditionally, to the North side's January 11 proposal to hold the 14th committee meeting on January 20, the first anniversary of the adoption of the joint declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and a contact of members on January 15 to discuss the rules of inspection, noted the message.

But, it said, the South side unilaterally designated the dates of three rounds of contact of members, ignoring the good usage of North-South dialogue and took the position of putting off the date of the committee meeting. This cannot be considered a sincere attitude to remove the difficulties lying in the way of the committee meeting.

There is obviously a sinister intention behind the South side's proposal to put off the date of the committee meeting for a week, the message noted, expressing deep concern over it.

The North side, Choe U-chin said, considers it is most suitable to have the ninth contact of members on January 15 and the 14th committee meeting on the 20th as it proposed already. But if the South side considers the dates inconvenient for it, the sides should sit at the negotiating table on the 22nd at the latest to open a new

phase. And it is desirable to discuss and set at the contact of members on the 15th, the date of the next contact.

Iranian Military Delegation Departs 14 Jan

SK1401010693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1521 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—The high-level delegation of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps of Iran headed by General Commander Mohsen Reza'i left here today after a three-day visit to Korea.

It was seen off at the airport by Minister of People's Armed Forces O Chin-u, vice marshal of the Korean People's Army Kim Kwang- chin and others and Iranian Ambassador to Korea Hasan Taherian.

While in Korea, the delegation visited Mangyongdae, the Taean heavy machine complex, the Korean computer centre, the victorious fatherland liberation war museum, KPA unit 809, etc.

Kim Il-song Receives Letter From 'Arafat

SK1301034293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 11 Jan 93

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and the DPRK president, has received from Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organization [PLO] Executive Committee, a letter supporting the policies of fatherland reunification put forth in his New Year address this year. The solidarity letter reads:

Pyongyang

To Your Excellency Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and the DPRK president:

Your Excellency President Kim Il-song, our brother,

I offer my revolutionary greeting to Your Excellency. On New Years Day, I extend my warmest congratulations and prayer greetings to Your Excellency and to your militant party, your friendly government, and your people through you, on behalf of our Palestinian people and the PLO Executive Committee members who are my brethren, and in my name.

I highly assess the important achievements which the Korean people made in constructing socialism by implementing the chuche idea last year, as indicated in your New Year address.

Your Excellency made clear in your New Year address, your policy to realize Korean reunification through the confederate system based on one nation, one state, two systems, and two governments under the principle of national independence. I recognize that this is the fairest policy, which illuminates the future of the struggle of all the Korean people who are trying to realize the country's reunification—the greatest national long-cherished desire—and wholly support this.

I also insist that the relevant countries should sincerely fulfill their responsibilities and duties on the basis of their position of trying to fairly resolve the Korean issue, which is a legacy of the cold war, in conformity with the principles of international justice. I also recognize that your independent external policies making independence, peace, and friendship the basic idea, as clarified in Your Excellency's New Year address, are the policies which enable your friendly government and people to make an important contribution to supporting and encouraging the international people's struggle to achieve freedom and independence, oppose wars, guarantee peace, expel famine and poverty, and develop the economy, in particular, in the international political fields.

Your Excellency is supporting and encouraging our people's courageous uprising and just struggle, designed to put an end to the Israeli forcible occupation and to restore their rights, which cannot be conceded to anyone, including the right for self-determination, the right to return home, and the right of founding the Palestinian independent state with the sacred Quds [Jerusalem] as its capital city, under the leadership of the PLO, the only legitimate representative. On this occasion, I extend to Your Excellency my deep thanks for this.

I wish Your Excellency a long life, good health, and happiness. I also wish Your Excellency success in leading the friendly Korean people to progress, prosperity, and reunification. I offer my greatest respect to Your Excellency, our people's great friend.

Let us carry out the revolution until we win.

Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organization

4 January 1993, Tunis

Kim Chong-il Receives Foreign Party Messages

SK1301050193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings from foreign party leaders on the New Year 1993.

Messages came from Christophe Gbenye, national chairman of the Lumumba National Movement of Zaire; Naboho Kanidoua, general secretary of the Organization for People's Democracy-Labour Movement of Burkina Faso; Rene Mauge Mosquera, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ecuador; Genaro Ledesma Izquieta, chairman of the People's Front of Workers, Peasants and Students and chairman of the United Left of Peru; Oscar Ugarte, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mariateguista Revolutionary Party of Peru; Guzman Rivera Castaneda, general secretary of the Revolutionary Socialist

Party of Peru; and Khaleq Zaman Bhuiyan, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Bangladesh.

In the messages they hope for success of the Korean people in the struggle for peace, progress and reunification.

They wish Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

O Chin-u Greets Bulgarian Defense Minister

SK1301105593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—Marshal of the DPRK O Chin-u, minister of people's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to Valentin G. Alexandrov upon his appointment as defence minister of Bulgaria.

Expressing the belief that the friendly relations between the armies of the two countries would continue to develop on good terms, the message wished him success in his responsible work for increasing the defence capabilities of the country.

Foreign Visitors Praise Workers Party

SK1401123093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—Foreign visitors to Korea highly praised the Workers' Party of Korea which defends and develops our-style socialist system centered on the popular masses.

Rashed Khan Menon, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Bangladesh, said:

The Workers' Party of Korea is a tested veteran party and a guiding force which leads the Korean revolution to victory with iron will and faith.

It is confidently advancing along the road it chose without vacillation despite changes in the international communist movement.

It is under the outstanding guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il that the Workers' Party of Korea is advancing, flying the red flag of revolution.

Julio Casas Regueiro, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, said:

Heroic, indeed, are the efforts of the Korean people who are building socialism under the constant pressure and threat of the U.S. imperialists and their followers.

The correct leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il, the strenuous efforts of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people's conviction of victory and will have made it possible to defeat the imperialist aggression and build a prosperous Korea today.

Issa n'Diaye, minister of cultural and scientific studies of the Republic of Mali, said that only Korean-style socialism guarantees such a wonderful system under which all the people are evenly well-off without worries about food, clothing and housing.

The chairman of the Central Committee of the Brazilian Communist Party said that socialism is making a long drive in Korea on the basis of the self-supporting national economy which has been built in the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

The general secretary of the All-India Federation of University and College Teachers Organisations pointed out:

In Korea social wealth goes to the promotion of the people's well-being and the state provides the people with all living conditions.

This proves what a superior system the socialist system of Korea is.

All victories in Korea, indeed, are a fruition of the tireless efforts of respected His Excellency Kim Chong-il, a great leader who is leading the cause of socialism along a most straight path with his brilliant wisdom and iron will.

Japanese Group Supports Korean Reunification

SK1301103293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo January 11 (KNS-KCNA)—The 11th general meeting of the Yamaguchi prefectural people's council for supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea was held recently.

Present there were Kazunari Abe, chairman of the council and honorary professor of Yamaguchi University, Makoto Ogawa, social-democratic member of the House of Representatives and chairman of the Yamaguchi prefectural headquarters of the Japan Social-Democratic Party, and other officials concerned, more than 100 in all.

An opening address of Hirohisa Otsuka, vice-chairman of the council and professor of Yamaguchi University, was followed by a report of Yudaka Takeda, secretary general of the council, and a speech of the chairman of the Yamaguchi prefectural headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon).

The meeting adopted an appeal and a special resolution protesting against the decision to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

KCNA Details Local Preparations for 1993 Farming

SK1401010393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—The cooperative fields of Korea are astir with preparations for new year's farming.

The co-op farms, which gathered in bumper crops last year, are concentrating on manure production, water storing and repair and adjustment of tractors and other farm machines.

The assignments of manure production and water storing had been fulfilled at more than 70 percent nationwide as [word indistinct]

In South Hamgyong Province and Kaesong municipality, much of the produced manure has been carried out to fields.

In Nampho municipality, Kangwon Province, North Phyongan Province and Pyongyang municipality, all the amount of water needed for this year's farming has been nearly secied.

Waterway exnavation is progressing at fast speed in the countryside.

The scheme of the West Sea Barrage-Unryul-Kwail waterway for the extension of the already built 800 km long waterway, has reached the finishing stage.

The waterway excavation in the western area of the Ongjin peninsula and the construction of the Kilsongpo water pumping station to channel the water of the Taedong River from the West Sea Barrage to the Sohung irrigation works are also going ahead briskly.

KCNA: Power Production 'On the Increase'

SK1301110793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—Power production is on the increase in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

According to data available, power production grew 14 percent in the first ten days of the New Year above the same period toward the end of last year.

In this period the Puckang and Pyongyang thermo-power complexes increased power production respectively by 46 and 28 percent.

The Taedonggang power complex, the Kanggye youth power station and other hydro-power stations are keeping a steady high rate of power production by checking and repairing the generating equipment in time and raising the efficiency of the turbines.

Academies View Tasks of Intellectual Meeting

SK1301054393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—Rallies were held at the Academy of Social Sciences, the Academy of Agricultural Science and the electronic and automation science branch of the Academy of Sciences to carry out the tasks set forth at the Korean intellectuals meeting.

The congratulatory letter of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the Korean intellectuals meeting and the letter of pledge to the party Central Committee headed by respected President Kim Il-song which was adopted at the meeting were read at the rallies.

The reporters and speakers stressed that the scientists should energetically conduct scientific researches to widely explain and propagandize the greatness of President Kim Il-song and the party and the validity and great vitality of the cause of Korean-style socialism centred on the popular masses.

They resolved to concentrate efforts on the researches into breeding and cultivation of crops to obtain high-yielding seeds of new strains and complete the technique of their cultivation, and effect new innovations in scientific researches into soil control, animal husbandry and veterinary and scientific sericulture.

They stressed the need to briskly conduct scientific researches on a higher level into different kinds of latest electronic materials, electronic devices, computers, automatic control devices, integrated circuits and robots for the development of electronic and automation industries.

Letters of pledge to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were adopted at the rallies.

Korean Residents Protest Japan's 'Slander'

SK1301053093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo January 11 (KNS-KCNA)—Delegates of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) called on the Japanese prime minister's residence on January 8 to protest against the government authorities' slander of the DPRK regarding the transport of plutonium and demanded the withdrawal of the utterances of the authorities and an apology for them.

The delegates including director of the international department of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon Kim Tae-hui were accompanied by Hajime Fukada, Japan Social-Democratic member of the House of Councillors.

They in a letter of protest to the Japanese prime minister said that the remarks of the government authorities were

to lull the international criticism of Japan's stockpile of plutonium and that the groundless slander was an expression of the Japanese Government's unfriendly policy toward the DPRK.

Recalling that the DPRK had declared it had no intention to produce nuclear weapons and that inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency had been well under way, the letter demanded that the Japanese Government immediately cancel the slanderous remarks and apologize for them.

Japanese Criticized for Shipping Plutonium

SK1301051993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 13 Jan 93

["NODONG SINMUN on Japan's Nuclear Designs"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—The recent shipment of 1.7 tons of plutonium from France by the Japanese authorities shows their action to become a nuclear power has entered a full-dress stage, says NODONG SINMUN today.

Commenting on Japan's scheme to emerge as a nuclear power, the paper brands it as an act running against the trend of the times toward disarmament and detente, a challenge to the desire of mankind to live in a peaceful world without nuclear arms and a grave threat to peace in Asia and the world.

The analyst continues:

It is self-contradictory for a country styling itself "a peaceful state" and "nuclear victim" to scheme to stockpile the largest amount of plutonium, the raw material for nuclear arms, in the world. Japan's attempt to conceal its nuclear armament with the veil of "use for peaceful purposes" is a mockery of the world public.

The Japanese authorities' shipment of plutonium in defiance of worldwide protest showed they were indifferent to the interests of other countries and public opinion of the world and would do anything without hesitation to become a nuclear power, a military power.

It must not go unnoticed that a ranking official of Japan groundlessly slandered the DPRK, mumbling that the plutonium shipped to Japan might be intercepted by it. With this shameless sophism, the Japanese authorities attempt to divert elsewhere the worldwide criticism and protest, spread "nuclear suspicion" against the DPRK and justify their nuclear armament under this pretext.

If Japan really wants peace, it must renounce its nuclear armament project and contribute to world peace with practical efforts for denuclearization and peace.

Nuclear armament will lead Japan to self-destruction.

Mass Rallies Mark 40th War Anniversary

SK1301104293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—Mass rallies were held in Tanchon city of South Hamgyong Province, Kim Chaek city of North Hamgyong Province, Chongju County of North Pyongan Province, Pongchon County of South Hwanghae Province, Changgang County of Chagang Province, Pungso County of Yanggang Province and Kaepung County of Kaesong municipality to greet the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War with a high degree of political enthusiasm and brilliant achievements in production and construction in hearty response to the New Year address of the respected leader President Kim Il-song.

The reporters and speakers called for demonstrating the inexhaustible strength and indestructible might of the Korean people rallied behind the party and the leader in one mind by bringing about a great upswing in socialist construction.

They stressed the need to put great efforts into the coal and power production and effect new innovations in the railway transport and light industry.

They vowed to increase agricultural production by fully meeting the requirements of the chuche method of farming and to carry out the chemical fertilizer production plan for the new manuring year ahead of schedule.

Press Decries South's 'Faked' 'Spying' Charges'

SK1401114893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 14 Jan 93

["Outrage of Tricksters" —KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—Papers here today come out with commentaries on the "Case of the Workers' Party of Korea in South Korea" faked up by the South Korean authorities.

A NODONG SINMUN analyst says:

On January 11, the South Korean authorities held a "trial" on Sim Kum-sop, representative of the South Korean Chonghae business whom they had arrested on the charge of involvement in the "Case of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] in South Korea" at the Seoul "district criminal court" and demanded a death sentence for him.

They said it "turned out" that Sim was absorbed by a North's "operative" abroad through the offices of Kim Nak-chung some years ago and has since actively engaged in "spying" in South Korea.

This is a sheer fabrication which does not deserve even a passing note.

We have never met anyone called Sim Kum-sop abroad, nor do we know the likes of him.

Their allegation that Sim was "absorbed by an operative" of the North and has "actively engaged in spying" was invented maladroitly by the "Security Planning Board" (SPB), an anti-communist plot-breeding headquarters, as the occasion demanded.

It had been widely exposed to the world that the "case of the WPK in South Korea" announced by the South Korean rulers last year was an anti-DPRK fabrication motivated by the criminal intention to turn the unfavorable political situation surrounding the "presidential elections" in favor of the stay of the "Democratic Liberal Party" in power, to throw a wet blanket over the national reunification sentiments which were mounting with the adoption and effectuation of the North-South agreement and block the implementation of the agreement.

It is an undeniable fact that the South Korean "president-elect," talking about "coloring," used this case to label an opposition candidate as a "pro-communist element" and to expand his sphere of influence for more votes and thus realized his dream of "victory in the elections."

The falsity of the case was proved all the more clearly when they had to pass a sentence of reprieve on the same day on Cho Mu-ha, the wife of Chang Ki-pyo whom they had arrested for complicity in the case, although they had tried by hook or by crook to make her plead guilty, questioning her for several months.

It is clear why the South Korean authorities are still using the "case of the WPK in South Korea" which has turned out false. At present, the opposition and popular masses are accusing the present ruling quarters and the "president- elect" of having hurled mud at the opposition candidate with a talk about "coloring" after fabricating the "case of the WPK in South Korea" with the "presidential elections" at hand last year. They are now lifting up voices demanding an explanation and apology for it.

Such moves of the people dealt a blow at the present "regime" which volubly talked about "fair elections" and "orthodoxy," and are casting a dark shadow on the soon-to-be-born new "regime."

It is clear to anyone that the South Korean authorities held "trials" against those involved in the case and hurriedly demanded a death sentence in an effort to make the case a fait accompli before the expiration of the present rulers' tenure and thereby tone down the public criticism and open the way out for the new "regime."

They are trying through the murderous trial to incite North-South confrontation, aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula and justify their crackdown on the pro-reunification democratic forces in South Korea.

In bringing forward the "case of the WPK in South Korea" again the South Korean rulers also seek to justify their heinous anti-national crimes, whip up the consciousness of North-South confrontation among the people and further aggravate North-South relations on the pretext of fictitious "threat from the North" and "strategy of communization." They also pursue in this an aim to ensure a "political stability" for the new "regime" by suppressing independent democratic organizations and pro-reunification patriotic forces in South Korea including the coalition for national democratic movement and the national council of student representatives, branding them as "pro-communist organizations" and "pro-communist forces" manipulated by the North.

The South Korean authorities must refrain from such clumsy and despicable act and stop crackdown on the people and anti-DPRK smear campaign forthwith.

MINJU CHOSON urges that the South Korean authorities should immediately release all those whom they have arrested unwarrantably for involvement in the "case of the WPK in South Korea," stop fascist trials and desist from aggravating the North-South relations.

ROK Suffering 'Guilty Conscience' From Denial of Plutonium Effort

SK1401101093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities are planning to jointly produce with Britain plutonium which is used as a nuclear bomb-grade material, according to a foreign press report quoting THE NEW YORK TIMES. This is shown by the move of the South Korean authorities to make a contract with Britain for a co-production of plutonium, the paper said.

When THE NEW YORK TIMES report was published, the South Korean authorities denied it through a "Foreign Ministry spokesman", the report says.

The reaction of the South Korean authorities to the report of THE NEW YORK TIMES was a fit of those with a guilty conscience.

It is already an open secret that the South Korean authorities are engaged in the development of nuclear weapons.

The fact that their development of nuclear weapons was thus brought to light even by a U.S. paper tells that the criminal acts of the South Korean anti-national elements to violate and obliterate the joint declaration on denuclearisation and turn the Korean peninsula further into a hotbed of nuclear war have reached a very grave phase.

The 70 million fellow countrymen are watching with a high vigilance the treacherous moves of the South Korean authorities.

South Koreans Greet Kim Il-song

SK1201234493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505 GMT 12 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang January 12 (KCNA)—Patriotic organisations across South Korea printed New Year's cards wishing good health and long life to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il on the New Year and distributed them among their members and people, according to radio Voice of National Salvation from Seoul.

The New Year's card titled "Long Live Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il! Let us uphold and follow them" distributed by the "February 16 society" says:

"We heartily wish President Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation, longevity in good health!

We sincerely wish secretary Kim Chong-il, the lodestar of the nation, long life and good health.

We will hold Generalissimo Kim Il-song forever in high esteem!

We will invariably follow and remain faithful to Marshal Kim Chong-il!" The New Year's card distributed by the "Patriotic Youth Society" states that their desire is reunification. "Let us acclaim President Kim Il-song and the leader Kim Chong-il on the high rostrum of the plaza of reunificationon the card says.

'Devoted Efforts' of Party Officials Continue

SK1201235393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1521 GMT 12 Jan 93

["True Servants of People"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 12 (KCNA)—Officials of party and power bodies and administrative and economic organs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are making devoted efforts to provide the working people with more bountiful and cultured living conditions.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il said:

"Faithful to the slogan of the party, 'we serve the people!', officials should have a correct view of the popular masses, thoroughly defend the interests of the people and dedicate their all to them."

Comrade Kim Chong-il leads all the officials to become true servants of the people.

He highly praises officials who devotedly serve the people and sees to it that their experience is generalized. Now a powerful campaign is going on among the officials to follow the example of twice labour heroine Chong Chun-sil, director of the Chonchon County Commercial Managament office in Chagang Province, who has worked as a true servant of the people for decades from her girlhood, and noble deeds of true servants for the people are becoming widespread.

Officials of the Usi County, Chagang Province, People's Committee together with the county population, built factories producing more than 7,000 tons of cement and over 600,000 bricks annually and constructed 15 minor power stations, a textile mill with printing machines for 20,000 meters a year, a factory which produces confectionery, milk products, nutritious vegetable powder and oktang sugar of 100 tons each—ten odd local industrial factories all told—in two or three years. And they constructed houses for more than 1,000 families and scores of public buildings every year to change the appearance of the county. Now the people in this mountainous area more than 200 km away from the railway lines are enjoying a happy life little different from the life of townsfolks. In Saeppyol county, North Hamgyong Province, in the northern tip of the country, officials of the administrative and economic organs rolled up their sleeves and well built up the county seat and 24 Yi and workers' settlements including Yuda islet and Nongpho-ri. They increased the variety of consumer goods 20 percent and their output 50 percent in three years, making the people's living more affluent.

Hwang Ok-son and An Myong-ok who are chairwomen respectively of the administrative and economic committees of Hwadae County, North Hamgyong Province, and Sinyang County, South Phyongan Province, went deep among the masses and devoted their all to building the counties into a paradise for the people, living among them.

Recently, Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to officials of Kumgang County, Kangwon Province, and other cities and counties who had set examples in improving the people's living standards.

The full display of the spirit of devoted service to the people among officials is a true look of our socialist system centred on the popular masses and it is the source of the singlehearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses.

KCNA Reviews 14 Jan Pyongyang Press

SK1401074793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Press Review]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a letter to the great leader President Kim Il-song from the participants of an Austrian National Seminar on the present times and the chuche idea.

A university professor and students in Taegu, South Korea, prayed for longevity of President Kim Il-song, says the press.

Printed in papers are messages of greetings to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from foreign party leaders on the new year.

Papers report that Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to people's army soldiers and agricultural working people who highly displayed the traditional beautiful traits of unity between the army and people and did good things for the state and society.

NODONG SINMUN dedicates an article to the 10th anniversary of the publication of "Let Us Effect a Revolutionary Turn in the Party Work To Meet the Requirements of the Present Situation," a work of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The paper tells that Comrade Kim Chong-il has led the people to consistently maintain the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance in the whole course of revolution.

MINJU CHOSON carries an editorial calling for pressing ahead with the revolution and construction with the revolutionary spirit and stamina displayed by the Korean people during the fatherland liberation war, and an article stressing that the guiding idea, socio-political foundation and the leader's guidance are the factors decisive of the durability and vitality of the people's power.

Given in papers are accounts of mass rallies held in different parts of the country to greet the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war with a high degree of political zeal and shining achievements in production and construction and meetings at scientific research bodies to thoroughly carry out the tasks set forth at the Korean intellectuals meeting.

Papers report about innovations being effected in coal production and preparations for new year's farming.

The Guyanese president received the Korean ambassador, says the press.

Papers in commentaries denounce the present South Korean rulers for resorting to suppression of people and anti-DPRK smear campaign by bringing forward again the false "case of the Workers' Party of Korea in South Korea".

The United States is going to hurl the aircraft carrier Independence into the "Team Spirit 93" war exercises, and the South Korean authorities are scheming joint production of plutonium with britain, according to papers.

The press rounds up world public voices supporting the fundamental principle of Korea's reunification and voices of foreigners praising the Korean style socialist system centred on the masses.

A commentary of NODONG SINMUN hits out at Bush's sermon about the U.S. policy of strength.

Foreign media reported the Pyongyang declaration "Let Us Defend and Advance the Cause of Socialism," says the press.

World news of papers includes reports that the Yugoslav president called for unity of all political forces and the Indonesian president referred to the development of the nation's science and technology.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article titled "Global Independence Is Consistent Policy of DPRK Government."

NODONG SINMUN Says U.S. Must Renounce 'Policy of Strength'

SK1401072393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0503 GMT 14 Jan 93

["U.S. Must Renounce Policy of Strength"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 14 (KCNA)—The Clinton administration that is to emerge soon in the United States should renounce the policy of strength and not step into the misshapen shoes of its predecessor.

Commenting on U.S. President Bush's recent advice to his successor Clinton to keep to the policy of strength, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

Bush reportedly told Clinton the United States must "remain the world leader" and exercise "selective use of force for selective purposes" and not act "according to a fixed set of conditions in deciding on military intervention."

Bush's advice is very ill-boding. He is a fanatic of strength who wishes to control the world with strength; he is a politician not freed from the cold-war era mode of thinking.

It is an anachronistic act against the trend of the times for the United States to cling to the policy of strength today when the cold war has come to an end.

If the U.S. is to keep step with the trend of the times, it must renounce the policy of strength and adopt a new policy. A switchover in its Korea policy is of primary importance.

Its Korea policy of antagonizing the DPRK and constantly threatening and blackmailing it militarily while keeping numerous U.S. troops stationed in South Korea is entirely wrong in view of the situation today.

The U.S. must change its Korea policy, withdraw its troops from South Korea and thus make a substantial contribution to the creation of a peaceful climate for the solution of the Korean question.

U.S. 'Show of Power' Betrays 'Vulnerability'

SK1301002093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1530 GMT 12 Jan 93

["Bluff of Imperialists Betrays Their Vulnerability"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a by-lined article headlined "Bluff of Imperialists Betrays Their Vulnerability".

The article says:

The imperialists, not discarding their old idea of confrontation and policy of strength in the cold war era, are now wielding bayonets against those countries which refuse to comply with their demands or take an independent stand, while trying to stifle some countries by means of economic bribery, subordination and ideological and cultural destabilization. But, they cannot block the people's accomplishment of the cause of independence.

The article quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"Whenever imperialism faces a crisis, its reactionary and aggressive nature increases and it makes desperate efforts to maintain its existence. The frenzied efforts of the imperialists are not an expression of their strength; they reveal their vulnerability."

The article further says: The imperialists are making a show of power, regarding it as their privilege to threaten other countries and violate their national independence and sovereignty. This does not show their strength but, on the contrary, reveals their vulnerability.

Imperialism is in a serious crisis internally and externally. The crisis is not caused by any accidental or temporary factor but a product of all contradictions of modern imperialism which cannot be solved.

The imperialists are making a show of power for the purpose of covering up their position in a political dilemma and extricating themselves from it.

The economic crisis has become deteriorated in the imperialist countries where the discontent of the working people is rising to a higher pitch.

The economic crisis sweeping over the capitalist world is a very catastrophic one, not a mere repetition of panic or depression caused by overproduction in the past.

Antagonism and contradictions among imperialist powers are getting worse. Their antagonism and contradictions are deepening not only in the economy and trade but also in the political sphere.

Because of their vulnerability, the imperialists are going downhill. No matter how hard the imperialists may try, they cannot extricate themselves from the abyss of ruin.

Ideology Emphasized in Party Building

SK1301112293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 13 Jan 93

["Party Must Be Built With Main Stress on Ideology, NODONG SINMUN"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—To build the party with the main emphasis on ideology is one of the important principles of revolutionary party building laid down by our party in a unique way, declares NODONG SINMUN today.

The author of the article says:

In his classic work "On the Fundamental Questions of Revolutionary Party Building" the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il expounded a new, unique policy of putting stress on ideology in party building, basing himself on the chuche theory that ideology decides everything.

The dear leader said:

"Party is a political organization of people who are united by the community of ideology. Therefore, its ranks should be strengthened with the main stress put on ideology."

This means that party ranks are built up with the people loyal to the cause of socialism, making it the main point what deep faith they have in the party's ideology.

This is the most reasonable policy to consolidate the party organizationally and ideologically.

One of the important features of the working-class party is that the party is an integral whole which is united around the leader organizationally and ideologically on the basis of his idea and acts as one under a single discipline.

Only when the party firmly builds up the ranks of cadres and party members, giving main consideration to their ideology, can it ensure the purity of the party ranks, achieve the organizational and ideological unity and increase its might in every way.

To put the main stress on ideology in party building is the most reasonable policy to strengthen the party as required by the lawful demand of the developing revolution in which people's ideology rises to a high degree and its role increases.

Ever since its founding, our party has held fast to this principle and, therefore, has been able to strengthen itself organizationally and ideologically and constantly enhance its function and role as the general staff of the revolution.

Our party's experience and today's reality show that putting stress on ideology in party building is the only way of consolidating the party organizationally and ideologically and carrying to completion the party's cause through generations.

Abolition of South's 'Infamous' NSL Urged

SK1301113193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 13 Jan 93

["NODONG SINMUN Urges Abolition of 'NSL' in S. Korea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today urges the abolition of the "National Security Law" [NSL], saying it is natural that the South Korean people are now strongly demanding the scrapping of the anti-democratic, anti-national, anti-reunification law.

Recalling that the headquarters of the all-people struggle for the abolition of the "NSL" was formed in South Korea in April last year and other organizations made their appearance, with the result that the mass struggle for the repeal of the "law" has gained strength, the paper says in a by-lined article:

The "NSL" enacted and maintained by the fascist dictators under the patronage of the U.S. imperialists has been a target of sharp criticism by the people because it ruthlessly violates the elementary political freedom and democracy of the people.

More than 2,230 patriots were arrested and referred to trials on charges of violation of the "law" in South Korea from 1980 to 1988, dozens of them sentenced to death. In less than a month in April 1989, more than 330 leading dissidents, 250 democrats, 50 priests and 280 core elements of movements were arrested on the same charges.

Accusing fingers are pointed at the "NSL" all the more because it serves as a legal obstacle to the forceful current of the nation toward the country's reunification.

It defines the political parties, organizations and the people of the northern half of the country as "anti-state organizations" and the "members of anti-state organizations" and prohibits dialogue, correspondence and other kinds of exchange between the North and the South.

As the South Korean people say, the enactment of the "law" which defines the fellow countrymen in the North as the "enemy" was an anti-national act.

When the historical agreement was adopted and effectuated between the North and the South on the basis of the three principles—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—and the whole nation is looking forward to the reunification at close quarters with hope and expectation, the South Korean rulers are keeping intact the "NSL" designed to deny the nation and its reunification. This must not be permitted.

To scrap the infamous "NSL" in South Korea is an urgent task which should be fulfiled without delay to achieve a genuine democracy of society and promote the movement for national reunification.

The criminal scheme of the South Korean rulers to maintain the "NSL", ignoring this pressing demand of the time, will face bitter denunciation by the people.

UN Receives Parts of Kim Il-song's Speech

SK1301110193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang January 13 (KCNA)—The part of national reunification of the New Year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song for this year was distributed on Jan. 4 as a document of the U.N. General Assembly A/48/59 [document number] "Review of the Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security" and an official document of the U.N. Security Council S, 25047 [document number].

PRC Sports Group Gives Award to Athlete

SK1301105493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Beijing January 11 (KCNA)—Results of selecting the best athletes of Asia for the year of 1992 were published and an awarding ceremony was held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on January 8 under the sponsorship of the Chinese Sports Journalist Association.

Five men including DPRK people's sportsman Pae Kil-su and five women athletes among those in Asia who won the gold medals at the 25th Barcelona Olympic games were selected as the Asian best athletes of the year 1992.

The selected athletes were awarded cups of Asian best athletes of the year 1992.

South Korea

Embassies Preparing To Protect Workers in Iraq, Kuwait

SK1301234893 Seoul YONHAP in English 2324 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government has sent instructions to embassies in Jordan and Kuwait to prepare for the protection of Korean workers and residents in Iraq and Kuwait, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday. The ministry said the instruction went out shortly before the United States and its allies forces launch military strikes against Iraq Wednesday.

Ministry officials said the government told diplomats in Jordan and Kuwait to check their communication links between them and secure cars and trucks and emergency food while keeping Korean residents in their areas in their places for the time being. There are about 20 employees of Samsung Construction Co. in Iraq, managing construction equipment in the outskirts of Baghdad, while some 200 workers and diplomats and their families are residing in Kuwait, the officials said.

Emergency Precautions

SK1401035193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0251 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea's missions in Iraq and Kuwait were instructed Thursday to be fully ready to shelter Korean nationals in an emergency. The missions were told to check their emergency communications with Korean residents, and to secure food, potable water, cars, trucks and other supplies needed for an escape. The orders followed a meeting headed by Vice Foreign Minister No Chang-hui to review security measures for Koreans living in the two Middle Eastern countries.

The ministry will be in close contact with Korea's missions in the United States and the United Nations to decide the right time to set the emergency plans in motion. Koreans in the region were all safe from the crisis as they were staying out of southern Iraq, the principal target of allied air strikes, as of Thursday morning, a responsible ministry official said. There are 27 Koreans, comprising 18 construction company officials and an embassy employee and their dependents, in Iraq, and 248, including embassy officials and their dependents, in Kuwait. A ministry spokesman said it was not desirable to see war escalate in the Middle East, but that the UN resolutions on Iraq should be observed.

Meanwhile, the Construction Ministry activated its emergency management team immediately after the U.S.-led air strike was launched in Southern Iraq. The team will watch closely the development of the crisis and set up emergency communication links with construction companies doing business in the Middle East. It will put primary emphasis on preventing casualties, a ministry official said.

Evacuation Ordered

SK1401034593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0306 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korean construction companies doing business in Iraq have instructed their Korean employees to evacuate to safer nearby countries because of the rising tensions.

As the air strike Wednesday was limited to military targets in the no-fly zone in Southern Iraq, Korean contractors are not overanxious though they were fast to act, sources said Thursday.

The Construction Ministry convened an emergency meeting with the Overseas Construction Association of Korea and contractors doing business in Iraq on Wednesday and agreed to put priority on ensuring the safety of Korean workers.

The government and the two companies that still have employees in Baghdad for equipment management—Samsung Construction Co. and Hyundai Construction Co.—work closely together to prepare for the worst.

The companies have no ongoing projects in the country, the sources said, adding that all Korean workers are presently out of danger because they live far from the no-fly zone.

Samsung urged its five remaining employees in its Baghdad office to follow the instructions of the Korean embassy. It is considering moving them to Jordan in case of danger.

Hyundai instructed its 14 employees, who have been finishing a railway in northern Iraq, to move to Jordan.

Hyundai and Hanil Development Co., working on projects in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, prepared for Iraqi retaliation on the two gulf countries.

Hyundai has had 63 employees on a road project in Kuwait since last August and Hanil has 135 workers for three hangar operations in Saudi Arabia.

Iraq Requisitions Vehicles, Equipment From Hyundai, Samsung

SK1401102393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0505 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—The Iraqi government has requisitioned some 100 pieces of construction equipment and vehicles owned by Korean companies since May last year, when it announced the requisition of foreign-owned equipment on its territory to help produce grain and water.

The Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. has had 46 items requisitioned, including trucks and air compressors, while the Hanyang Construction Co. has had four taken over, a source at the overseas construction association of Korea said Thursday. The total is estimated at 100 pieces if cars and pickup trucks are included, according to the source.

The three Korean companies with operations in Iraq own 860 pieces of equipment in the country worth 8.7 million U.S. dollars. Hanyang has hired locals to take care of its equipment instead of assigning Koreans there, while the Samsung Construction Co. has sold its equipment to a Jordanian company and it hasn't been requisitioned for that reason.

Iraq, under severe U.N. economic sanctions, apparently requisitioned the equipment of foreign companies to help its rehabilitation work, but the taking over had not been active since August last year.

Construction Ministry Lists Debts of Middle East Nations

SK1401095493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0845 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—Middle Eastern nations owed South Korean construction companies 740 million U.S. dollars at the end of September 1992, the Construction Ministry said Thursday. The ministry

painted a gloomy picture of their chances of getting the money soon, saying war was on the verge of breaking out after the coalition air attack against Iraq.

The figure is 40 million dollars less than at the end of June, it said, adding that the September statistics were the most recent available because deferred payments are compiled every third month.

Libya topped the list, owing Korean contractors 420 million dollars, followed by Saudi Arabia (250 million dollars), Iraq (35 million dollars) and Kuwait (24 million dollars). Daewoo Corp. is owed 360 million dollars, followed by Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. (170 million dollars), Hanyang Construction Co. (65 million dollars), Tong-a Construction Industrial Co. (46 million dollars), Kumkang Construction Co. (16 million dollars) and Samsung Construction Co. (15 million dollars).

Some Mideast nations are trying to delay payment by accusing Korean contractors of faulty work, a source said, adding that the government should take steps to solve the issue through diplomatic channels. But a Daewoo official predicted that there would be no problem for his company to get its money, mostly from Libya, which has shown a sincere attitude to making payment in oil.

DPRK Signing of Chemcial Pact Urged; Yang Shankung Health Noted

SK1401005993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0038 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Paris, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—China, Germany and Russia pledged Wednesday to cooperate closely with South Korea in getting North Korea to sign the Chemical Weapons Convention [CWC]. It was "most natural" for North Korea to join the convention, German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel told his South Korean counterpart, Yi Sang-ok, in a 20-minute meeting, officials from Seoul said.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev suggested the countries publicly announce their pledge to cooperate in bringing North Korea into the convention, and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen "shared an understanding" that they hope to see North Korea become a convention member as soon as possible.

South Korea signs the CWC Thursday, capping 24 years of grueling negotiations to destroy all chemical arms within 10 years.

North Korea, suspected of being highly advanced in chemical weapons capability with its own bacteria, was not at the Paris conference where the treaty opened to original signatory nations.

When Yi explained Seoul's concerns about Pyongyang's capabilities, Kinkel said he hoped that German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's scheduled visit to Seoul in early March would result in bringing the two countries together for the cooperation.

Kohl will be the first head of state to go to South Korea after Kim Yong-sam is sworn in as president on Feb. 25.

Kozyrev took a stronger stand, urging Seoul to publicly announce their joint efforts, the officials said. He asked about Seoul inviting a Russian delegation to the inauguration.

Yi said the arrangements were being discussed with Kim's transition team and promised to notify Moscow as soon as the decision is made through the Russian embassy in Seoul.

Kozyrev said the two countries needed to solve the ownership dispute over the former Russian legation site in Seoul at the earliest date possible, and Yi shared his opinion, the officials said.

South Korean and Chinese foreign ministers discussed exchange visits by government leaders, but Qian said that Chinese President Yang Shangkun would not be able to go anytime soon because of health reasons, officials said.

The Chinese Foreign Minister said the visit will be pursued within this year but that he is not sure who the visitor will be.

Qian repeated China's position that Beijing does not want to see either South or North Korea own nuclear weapons and pointed out it is development on Pyongyang's part that it is accepting inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Yi emphasized North Korea must come forward to join the chemical weapons convention as well, and Qian agreed, the officials said.

The two foreign ministers also agreed in principle for early conclusion of economic pacts such as aviation and maritime agreements.

Daily Contrasts ROK, DPRK Stance on Chemical Arms Ban

SK1401041293 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 12 Jan 93 p 4

[Article by reporter Pak Tu-sik]

[Text] Our government has decided to sign a treaty banning chemical weapons in a conference to be held in Paris on 13 January. This decision has long been anticipated. When former Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su attended the "Paris Conference for Banning Chemical Weapons" in January 1989, he said that he was willing to sign the treaty if an agreement was reached and took every opportunity to make this position clear at home and abroad. Accordingly, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok's planned participation in the treaty signing ceremony in Paris and the government's declaration to "neither produce nor use chemical weapons" can be regarded as clear manifestation of its chemical weapons policy.

More importantly, signing the treaty banning chemical weapons will further strengthen joint efforts by the ROK and the U.S. to lead North Korea to bare before the world the status of its chemical weapons and scrap them. As the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency director said in a news conference last week, the U.S. Government has already made clear its will to put pressure upon North Korea, which refuses to join the treaty banning chemical weapons. Accordingly, North Korea's possession of chemical weapons are likely to emerge as a new controversial issue in North-South relations.

The signing of a treaty banning chemical weapons is of great significance because it will also have a great impact on domestic chemical industries. This treaty restricts the import and export of chemical substances which can be used in the production of chemical weapons.

Since the government publicly announced its intention to sign the treaty, it has closely examined the impact which the treaty will have upon our industries. The government clarified in its denuclearization policy on 8 November 1991 that it would not produce, stockpile, or use even biochemical weapons. Since then, the government has reportedly taken pains to work out ways to minimize consequential effects in meetings with the relevant business circles.

Yet the government has failed to figure out how much impact the signing of the treaty will have upon our domestic industries. The government could not foresee how the treaty would ban chemical weapons and found it very difficult to forecast how, upon effectuation, the treaty would control the import and export of chemical substances of advanced countries.

Unlike the International Atomic Energy Agency's nuclear inspection and "Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty," the treaty banning chemical weapons includes the regulations governing the indiscriminate, forcible inspection and disposal of chemical weapons. The nuclear nonproliferation treaty is aimed at preventing other countries from possessing nuclear weapons while recognizing the possession of nuclear weapons by the United States, the former Soviet Union, and other countries as a fait accompli. However, the treaty banning chemical weapons stipulates that all signatory countries, both advanced and underdeveloped, should begin scrapping chemical weapons within two years from the effectuation of the treaty and completely scrap all their chemical weapons within 10 years. In addition to this, the treaty also stipulates—in order to confirm the implementation of the treaty by signatories—an inspection system comprising forcible inspections with just 12 hours of prior notification. Many people agree that North Korea is inhibited from signing the treaty by such compulsory regulations of indiscriminate forcible inspections.

Countries refusing to sign the treaty banning chemical weapons include North Korea and most of the Middle East countries. The Arab countries reject this treaty because Israel has not signed the nuclear nonproliferation treaty. Since North Korea has no reason to reject this treaty, however, the United States and the ROK are likely to increase pressure upon North Korea to the level they have used on the issue of nuclear inspection.

In connection with the status of chemical weapons possessed by North Korea, the government disclosed in its "1991 declaration on denuclearization policy" that North Korea is capable of producing approximately 4,500 tons of chemical weapons annually and is stockpiling about 1,000 tons. If these statistics are correct then North Korea is capable of covering the entire Korean peninsula with its chemical weapons.

The government's decision to actively participate in signing the treaty banning chemical weapons this time shows its firm determination to eliminate North Korea's chemical weapons at the risk of having domestic industries possibly incur losses. In other words, while North Korea's nuclear weapons endanger our future, chemical weapons endanger our present security.

Russian Weekly Probes DPRK Attempt To Hire Nuclear Scientists

SK1401022593 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 13 Jan 93 p 2

[Article by reporter Kim Sok-hwan from Moscow]

[Text] North Korea attempted to produce a nuclear weapons delivery vehicle with the help of Russian nuclear scientists but failed in this venture as the scheme was unmasked by the Russian security authorities before the Russian scientists' departure, according to a recent issue of the Russian weekly news magazine VEK. The magazine quoted remarks by Security Minister Viktor Barannikov that those arrested by Russian security authorities in October-November 1992 in their attempt to fly to North Korea were scientists who had worked at a top secret space center located in (Podleypark) in the suburbs of Moscow.

The magazine also said that North Korea promised the Russian nuclear scientists that they would receive salaries ranging from $4,000 to $5,000 per month and high-quality housing.

According to the magazine, the scientists' departure was arranged in such secrecy that their families were notified of their destination only hours before the departure.

Quoting the specialists' opinions, VEK reporter (A. Klimenko) said that the North Korean leadership itself made the decision to bring the Russian brains into North Korea. The reporter added that agents belonging to North Korea's Ministry of Public Security participated in this operation.

The magazine analyzed on the basis of the testimonies of Russian specialists, including Barannikov, that the nuclear specialists who attempted to depart for North

Korea seemed to have been selected in order to manufacture a delivery vehicle for the nuclear weapons which North Korea has supposedly developed.

According to Russian press, Security Minister Barannikov said in a report submitted to the Congress of People's Deputies in December 1992 that the Security Ministry unmasked the plot in which 64 military rocket manufacturing specialists attempted to depart for North Korea in October-November 1992. He said that the Russian Security Ministry stopped their departure and added that North Korea planned to build a military rocket base with the help of these specialists.

JNCC Chairman Sends Telephone Message to North

SK1401093293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0921 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—Members of the South-North Joint Nuclear Control Commission [JNCC] will meet at Panmunjom on Friday to discuss an inter-Korean nuclear inspection regime. Rough sailing is foreseen, however, as the South is expected to call for an accord on inspection rules before the agreement is initialed. The North, on the other hand, is likely to demand cancellation of the decision to hold the Team Spirit military drill this year.

In a telephone message to the North Thursday, Southern-side JNCC Chairman Kong No-myong said Southern commission members would show up at Panmunjom at 10 a.m. Friday for the contact.

"The times of subsequent members contacts and the 14th plenary meeting of the Joint Nuclear Control Commission could be discussed and determined at Friday's contact," Kong said.

The North suggested that the contact be held on Friday and the full JNCC meet on Jan. 20, adding: "If the South finds the times not proper, the two sides could meet before Jan. 22 on a mutually agreeable date to find a breakthrough." The JNCC has not met since Dec. 17 becasue the South wants to hold a plenary session after inspection rules are agreed on in the members contacts and the North demands parallel members and full JNCC meetings.

North Rejects 15 Jan Contact

SK1401103793 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1010 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Choe U-chin, the North side's chairman of the South- North Joint Nuclear Control Committee, sent a telephone message to our side's chairman Kong No-myong on the afternoon of 14 January. He said that holding a members contact without establishing the date for the full-dress meeting is insignificant. He refused to hold the members contact scheduled for 15 January.

Before Cho U-chin's telephone message, our side had sent a telephone message saying that it accepts the North side's proposal to hold a members contact on 15 January. Our side had also suggested that both side's settle the date of the full-dress meeting at tomorrow's members contact.

Hungarian Paper Cites Tighter DPRK Visitor Controls

SK1301022393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0212 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Berlin, Jan. 13 (YONHAP)—North Korea has beefed up controls on travel within the country by foreigners to keep them away from its citizens, according to a Hungarian newspaper.

The MAGYAR NEMZET says that the travel restrictions also apply to people from nations friendly with North Korea, and visitors from former Soviet republics are trailed just as closely as "imperialists."

Dozens of "brain-washing concentration camps" contain some 15,000 people who are serving sentences of from 10-15 years or 15-20 years according to the nature of the crime, the NEMZET says.

Few prisoners are released after serving their term and allowed to resume a normal life, it says.

The NEMZET says Pak Kim-chol, a former director of external affairs for the Workers' Party, and Ho Pong-hak, a former chief of espionage operations against South Korea, are in the camps.

Government To Attempt Revival of Sports Exchanges With DPRK

SK1401023293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0105 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea will try to revive sports exchanges with North Korea and beef up sports diplomacy by hosting the 1996 Winter Asian games and the World Cup in 2002, Sports and Youth Minister Yi Chin-sam said Thursday. Sports activities have elevated Korea's prestige internationally, boosted Korean morale and drawn many people into sports activities, Yi told a meeting reviewing state policies. The meeting was presided over by President No Tae-u.

The ministry will make comprehensive, systematic plans to create young people of sound spirit and body, and will try to reopen the inter-Korean sports talks after the South Korea-U.S. military exercise "Team Spirit" finishes in April.

The ministry will try to field a unified Korean team for the International Table Tennis Championship in May and the Asian Games in Hiroshima, Japan, next year, Yi said. It will also make efforts to host the 1996 Asian Games, which North Korea has dropped, and the 2002 World Cup.

The ministry will raise participation in sports to 60 percent of the population by 2002 with the activation of a 10-year national sports project this year.

Kim Yong-sam Meets PRC, Russian Ambassadors

SK1401041593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0309 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—President-elect Kim Yong-sam urged Russia and China Thursday to exert their diplomatic efforts to persuade North Korea to agree to mutual and simultaneous inspections of nuclear facilities with South Korea.

Kim, who is scheduled to become president Feb. 25, also asked the two countries to try and expand political, economic, cultural and academic relations with South Korea.

Kim made the requests when Russian Ambassador Aleksandr Panov and Chinese Ambassador Zhang Tingyan paid separate visits to his office in Democratic Liberal Party headquarters.

During his meeting with Panov, Kim said that Russia and South Korea needed to overcome "the unfortunate past," characterized by the shootdown of the Korean Air Lines (KAL) jetliner by a Soviet fighter and the Soviet involvement in the 1950-53 Korean war, and work together for closer bilateral relations.

Kim told Zhang that he was convinced the establishment of diplomatic ties between Seoul and Beijing last year would contribute to the stability and unification of Korea and to peace and development of the Northeast Asian region.

Opposition Opposes Summoning of Chong Chu-yong

SK1301091493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0812 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 13 (YONHAP)—Opposition parties reacted sharply Wednesday to the prosecution's summons of party head Chong Chu-yong for questioning in connection with alleged illegal campaigning for the presidential election.

The Democratic Party and Chong's United People's Party [UPP] said the summons was tantamount to government suppression of the opposition and demanded that the National Assembly convene immediately to discuss the matter.

The UPP held an urgent meeting of senior party officials in the morning and reaffirmed a decision that Chong should not respond to the summons. It also decided to call a conference of UPP lawmakers Thursday to discuss countermeasures and ways to coordinate actions with the Democratic Party.

After Wednesday's meeting, Pyon Chong-il, the UPP spokesman, said the summons served on Chong was part of government efforts to "wither" the United People's Party.

"As long as the judiciary's fairness and equity are not guaranteed, we shall not answer the summons," Pyon said.

Pyon said the meeting relayed its decision in the form of a resolution to Chong, who was in Kyongju, North Kyongsang Province.

At the same time, the UPP decided to demand that the prosecution also investigate the source of campaign funds used by Kim Yong-sam and his DLP [Democratic Liberal Party] campaign workers.

The majority Democratic Liberal Party dismissed the opposition outcry and said the summons was due process of the law.

If a charge was brought, the person has to answer it by appearing at the prosecutor's office, said Pak Hui-tae, spokesman of the DLP.

It was unjustifiable for an individual or a political party to attach political significance to a judicial process, Pak said.

The allegations made against Chong, defeated UPP presidential candidate, were grave and of national importance. They had to be investigated thoroughly and cleared up, Pak said.

Chong has been under suspicion for alleged abuses of corporate funds and manpower of the Hyundai Business Group that he founded.

Hundreds of billions of won were alleged to have been channelled from the Hyundai Group to the UPP for Chong's election efforts while tens of thousands of Hyundai officials had been mobilized to campaign for their honorary chairman.

The Democratic Party, meanwhile, held a senior party officials meeting and decided that the prosecution summons on Chong was a selective and biased action. It urged the prosecution to hold an active and thorough investigation on election law violations by DLP campaigners as well.

Kim Tae-chung, Chong Chu-yong Contrasted

SK1301091293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0735 GMT 13 Jan 93

[By Cho Se-hyon]

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 13 (YONHAP)—The Dec. 18 presidential election produced two contrasting opposition leaders. In defeat, they showed that their true colors are as different as day and night.

Kim Tae-chung, declaring that a real fighter should know when to quit, bowed out of politics gracefully; and for his statesman-like move, he has won national admiration and applause.

Chong Chu-yong, despite a host of post-election problems, insists on staying in politics; and for his dogged persistence, he seems to have earned national disgust and disdain.

Ironically, the Democratic Party, which carries seeds of discord and a possible split, is reluctant to let its magnetic leader Kim go.

The United People's Party, on the other hand, cannot get rid of its founder Chong.

Unable to wean themselves of Kim's powerful leadership, top officials of the Democratic Party appeared to be trying to draw him back into active politics, constantly seeking his advice and urging to act on their behalf.

Kim has complied in some cases, triggering public suspicion and even charges from some quarters that he is already regretting his decision to retire and that he will sooner or later return to politics, controlling the party from behind the scenes if not in public.

The retired politician's activities in recent days were so openly political and active that one newspaper pundit commented: "Old politicians never retire, nor do they fade away."

Would Kim make a comeback in the future then to justify the cynicism of this pundit, and many others like him?

There is always a possibility, they say, that the opposition forces, especially his Democratic Party, will not function properly and effectively against the ruling party and the government.

But many analysts believe Kim is too much of a smart and proud politician to devalue himself by foraying back into the opposition mainstream against Kim Yong-sam, his friend, rival and the first civilian president to lead the nation in 32 years.

Kim doesn't have to, they argue, because he can still exercise great influence on the opposition party from outside as an elder statesman while keeping the retirement promise made in his speech to the nation following his defeat in the election Dec. 19.

In contrast, Chong, who is essentially a political novice, continues to be mired in the morass of politics, unable to make a clean break despite rising demands by members of his own party to step back from the frontline of party politics.

His own No. 2 man, Rep. Kim Tong-kil, threatened to resign as chairman of the United People's Party unless he retired from active party affairs. And Kim was by no means alone in his demand, according to party sources.

It is true that the 77-year-old tycoon-turned-politician has said he would not seek to run for president again in 1997. Nevertheless, he has indicated he intends to stay at the helm of the United People's Party, which he founded in February last year.

He could very well do so, if he were willing to provide the party with the 200 billion won that he said he would, but on Tuesday he declared that he would not keep his promise not only because he could no longer raise the money but also he believed the party could survive without the so-called "political development fund."

What Chong was saying, in effect, was that he could spend hundreds of billions of won for his own presidential ambitions but he would spend nothing after he failed to win the election.

Despite all the political rhetoric, the campaign speeches and the political cronies who follow him, Chong essentially remains a businessman, ever shrewd, who does not want to spend a won unless there is profit for him in it.

"Money obviously gave him an illusion of power, at least in his own Hyundai Business Group," said one analyst. "He probably thought it would be as easy to become president of the country as it was to make all of that money."

By insisting on staying in politics, Chong will find out for himself that politics is a different kettle of fish altogether, he said. And the sooner he does, the better off he, his party and the whole country will be.

YONHAP Reports Prison Suicide of Former Party Adviser

SK1401094593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0631 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—Former Minjung (masses) party adviser Kwon Tu-yong, 64, hanged himself with his underwear in his prison cell in Seoul Thursday morning. Kwon, in solitary confinement awaiting trial on national security charges, was cut down by prison guards at 7:20 a.m. and rushed to hospital, where he later died, a prison spokesman said. He was to appear in a Seoul district court hearing on Friday morning. He was detained in August last year.

Kwon was suspected of spying for North Korea and of visiting Pyongyang twice without approval from the South Korean Government, on Nov. 5-16, 1990, and April 28 to May 9, 1992. On his second stay in Pyongyang, he allegedly asked for 5 billion to 6 billion won (6.3 million to 7.3 million U.S. dollars) to unite South Korea's progressive forces into a new political party and was given 20,000 dollars.

Pak Ku-il Said Pressured To Quit Assembly

SK1301065493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0621 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 13 (YONHAP)—A retired Marine Corps general is under severe fire from other old-time leathernecks, who accuse him of "selling" the reputation of the elite service, to resign his National Assembly seat.

Rep. Pak Ku-il, a former Marine Corps commandant, has been told by a Marine fraternity to quit politics or be expelled from the group.

Pak Ku-il holds a national constituency seat and is under constant pressure from fellow retired marines to give up or resign as vice president of the Marine Fraternity Association.

Kim Sung-un, also a former Marine Corps commandant and a former defense minister now heading the association, gave Pak an ultimatum he had to clarify his position by 5 P.M. Wednesday.

Pak quit the DLP in "disgust" over a controversial meeting in Pusan in which the mayor, police chief and other senior Pusan city officials illegally discussed how they could support Kim Yong-sam's election bid.

His reason gained Pak little support, and the association of more than 700,000 former leathernecks has accused him of soiling the Marine virtues of fidelity, faith and solidarity.

Pak got his assembly seat as a professional representative of the Marines, Army, Navy and Air Force.

An association spokesman told YONHAP that the association had received dozens of telephone calls from members calling Pak a "traitor" for "selling" the reputation of the elite service.

On Jan. 8, 13 former Marine Corps commandants met in a Seoul hotel and told Pak to quit politics or face "grave consequences."

Pak told them that he knew of the accusations of members but stood by his reason for leaving the DLP.

That was also the day Pak was given the ultimatum, according to the spokesman.

The association plans to hold an extraordinary steering committee meeting this month to discuss the situation.

"If Pak doesn't accept our recommendation, he will face grave consequences," the spokesman said, hinting that one of these "grave consequences" might be expulsion from the association.

Pak is angry at the pressure, saying an old boy's club has no right to make political demands of him.

Korea Telecom Develops 135,000-Synapse 'Neuro-Chip'

SK1401101293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0650 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—Korea Telecom has developed a neuro-chip with almost the same intelligence as a fly in joint research with Goldstar Electron Co., a company spokesman said Thursday. Han Il-song, chief of Korea telecom's neuro-chip development team, said the chip has the equivalent of over 135,000 synapses and a processing speed of 200 giga connections per second. Neither the United States nor Japan are this advanced in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Han said.

The neuro-chip is essential to robots, intelligent electronic products and unmanned machinery because it is capable of learning, thinking and judging by itself. Han said the chip has an intelligence 211-times one with a level between an earthworm and a leech developed in 1991. The number of synapses, a barometer of memory power, is 1,000 for a moth, 100 million for a fly, one billion for a cockroach and 100 trillion for man. Han said that the operating speed of a bee's brain is hundreds of billions of connections per second, 1 billion for flies and 10 million billion for humans.

Minister Reviews Recent Economic Performance

SK1401023093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0142 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 14 (YONHAP)—Real economic growth in South Korea has averaged 8.5 percent a year for the last five years, Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu said Thursday. Per capita income was 6,700 U.S. dollars last year compared with 3,110 dollars in 1987, disposable income per urban worker household rose to 1,079,000 won a month in 1991 from 516,000 won in 1987, and disposable income per farming household increased to 1,092,000 won a month from 553,000 won.

With the national medical insurance, pension and minimum wage systems introduced in 1988-89, Korea's social security benefits improved to the level of an advanced nation, Choe told a meeting to appraise the achievements of the incumbent government. He said 2.69 million housing units were built by late 1992 since the launch of the government, overachieving the target of 2 million homes set by President No Tae-u. The government's economic stabilization policy saw fluctuations in commodity and real estate prices, interest rates and wages decline firmly.

Korea can join the ranks of advanced economies in the next century only if it makes a fresh start through sharing all aches among government, business and consumers. Consumer prices rose 4.5 percent last year, compared with an average of 9 percent in 1990-91, and market interest rates were lowered to 13 percent recently from 19 percent at the end of 1991.

Choe, who is also deputy prime minister, said that the prices of immovable assets were stabilizing downward, with house and land prices dropping since may 1991 and the second quarter last year, respectively.

The government supported 780 projects until last year after selecting 919 eligible projects on production technologies to strengthen competitiveness in the manufacturing industry.

To solve the manpower shortage, the government increased the quota of freshman entrants for colleges of science and

engineering and vocational high schools. Ninety-seven percent of state roads was paved as of last year from 79.5 percent in 1987 and the electricity reserve was increased to over 10 percent by the construction of 11 power stations with a capacity of 5.13 million kilowatts.

Arable land expanded to 623,000 hectares in 1992 from 488,000 hectares in 1987, and 88 percent of the rice crop was planted or harvested using agricultural machinery, up 40 percentage points.

Beef consumption rose to 5.1 kilograms per person last year from 3.6 kilograms in 1987, private cars rose to 3.26 million from 720,000 and phone lines to 19.02 million from 10.22 million.

The economy is suffering from slow growth amid restructuring to adapt to opening, Choe said, adding that the government should push reform policies to foster competitive power while keeping up its economic stabilization efforts.

Daewoo To Build Industrial Park in Japan

SK1301065793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0611 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Fukuoka, Japan, Jan. 13 (YONHAP)—The Daewoo Group began work on the blueprints last month for the Asia Intelligence and Trading Center (AIT), which it will construct at the heart of a software research park in Fukuoka.

A spokesman for a Daewoo Company in Fukuoka said Wednesday that the group began drawing up the plans for the building in December and hoped to break ground in August for completion before the Universiade Games in September 1995.

It was not only Korea's first construction contract in Japan, but contributed to the Northwest coastal city's effort to be the cradle of communication in the Asia-Pacific Region, the spokesman said.

Daewoo and the Fukuoka City Bank will each put up 8 billion yen, or 40 percent of the 20 billion yen (159.6 million U.S. dollars) that the construction will cost. Japanese small- and medium-sized companies will invest the other 20 percent, or 4 billion yen.

Daewoo Corp. (14 percent), Daewoo Communications Co. (13 percent) and Daewoo Electronics Co. (13 percent) are to represent the Daewoo Group in the project, the spokesman said.

The software research park, specially modeled to foster the communications industry, is divided into six sections by Japanese companies, including Matsushita Co., NEC (Nakagawa Electric Co.), and Hitachi Ltd.

Daewoo will lease some of the 7,260-pyong (one pyong equals 3.3 square meters) building, with nine floors and a basement for offices plus stores, and use the rest as the group's overseas base for software research and advancement, the spokesman said.

Participation in International Groups Reported

SK1301013993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0022 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 13 (YONHAP)—The number of international organizations of which government or government-affiliated bodies are members has gone over the 1,000 mark for the first time in the nation's history.

The Korea National Tourism Corp. said in a report published Wednesday that the number of international organizations South Korea had joined as of Jan. 1 stood at 1,078, up 23.6 percent or 206 organizations from a year ago.

By area, economic and industrial organizations such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) led the field with 230. They are followed by medical and health care, 134, social and cultural organizations, 123, sports, 114, science and technology, 105, religion, 72, transportation and communication, 62, press, 40 and others, 198.

The number has risen sharply since 1990, when South Korea joined the United Nations and with a rapid rise in the country's economic power, the association said in the report, compiled in its efforts to induce international conferences to South Korea.

The total number of international organizations is said to be 32,000.

Seoul, Hungary To Sign Youth Exchange Accord

SK1301061193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0457 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Hungary will sign a supplementary agreement on bilateral youth exchanges Thursday.

Korean Vice Sports and Youth Minister Yi Hae-pong and Ambassador to Seoul Sandor Etre will sign the supplementary agreement, which calls for Korea to invite 13 Hungarian youth leaders and for Hungary to invite 10 leaders in the same field, increasing exchange programs more vigorously from this year.

The agreement was signed in April last year.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Government Condemns Allied Attack on Iraq

BK1401082893 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 0600 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Malaysia has condemned the allied air attack on Iraq, saying the move will not bring peace to the region. The minister of foreign affairs, Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi, said the attack will result in instability in the region. The reasonable course of action would have been thorough negotiations. Datuk Abdullah also said Iraq should understand the situation and not take action that can provoke allied attacks.

The minister said he was surprised by the attack. He commented that the United States had been lethargic about intervening in Bosnia despite repeated violations of UN resolutions by the Serbian forces. This form of lethargy was not seen by the U.S. in dealing with Iraq.

Japan's Prime Minister Continues Visit

Regrets Attack in Cambodia

OW1301155793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1537 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 13 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Wednesday Tokyo will urge the U.N. peacekeeping team in Cambodia to ensure safety of its members endangered by a series of guerrilla bombings.

Miyazawa, who arrived in Kuala Lumpur from Jakarta earlier in the day on the second leg of a four-nation Southeast Asian tour, voiced deep regret over an attack Tuesday night on the quarters of U.N. peacekeepers in northwestern Cambodia that led to the deaths of two members.

Five Japanese civilian police stationed there were away overseas on holiday when an unidentified group made the attack.

Miyazawa said in a statement Japan will urge the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to take sufficient safety precautions for its members numbering more than 20,000, including some 600 Japanese soldiers.

Cambodia's U.N.-brokered peace process is in jeopardy due to the Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction's refusal to disarm its army, blamed for some of recent mounting provincial fighting between rival factions.

Visited by Mahathir at Hotel

OW1401013493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0122 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa was given a ceremonial red-carpet welcome at Kuala Lumpur's Parliament Square on Thursday ahead of a formal meeting with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed.

Miyazawa arrived in Kuala Lumpur from the Indonesian capital of Jakarta on Wednesday on the second leg of a four-nation southeast Asian tour. Mahathir paid a courtesy call on him at his hotel on his arrival.

The welcome ceremony will be followed by an audience with King Sultan Azlan Shah at the national palace.

Miyazawa will later visit a forest research institute, receive a courtesy call by a group of Malaysians who were formerly students in Japan, and attend a reception with the Japanese expatriate community.

He will end the day with a dinner hosted in his honor by Mahathir at the Malaysian leader's office.

Miyazawa will return home Monday after visiting Thailand and Brunei. The eight-day visit is his first southeast Asian tour since he became prime minister in 1991.

Receives Ceremonial Welcome

BK1401072093 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa was accorded a red carpet welcome at Parliament square in Kuala Lumpur today as he began a three-day official visit.

Mr. Miyazawa was greeted by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed. After visiting the guard of honor, Miyazawa greeted cabinet ministers, and foreign diplomats.

Shortly afterward, the Japanese leader left the Istana Negara [National Palace] for an audience with his Majesty the King, Sultan Azlan Shah. He was to later visit the Prime Minister's Department for talks with Dr. Mahathir. This was to be followed by bilateral discussions between the delegations from both countries.

Mr. Miyazawa arrived yesterday on the second leg of his eight-day tour of four ASEAN member countries.

Holds Formal Meeting With Mahathir

OW1401060893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0430 GMT 14 Jan 93

[By Masanori Kikuta]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa held a lengthy formal meeting Thursday with his Malaysian counterpart Mahathir Mohamed on the second leg of his four-nation Southeast Asian tour.

It was not immediately known what the two leaders discussed, but Japanese officials said ahead of the meeting that Miyazawa would offer to send to Malaysia the first "policy dialogue mission" to jointly discuss how Tokyo can best help Kuala Lumpur cope with its domestic problems.

Among issues expected to be taken up by the proposed mission, comprising former senior Japanese Government officials in charge of economic aid, will be the wide gap in development between Malaysia's rapidly industrializing west coast and largely rural east coast, and environmental problems, they said.

Miyazawa, who arrived in Kuala Lumpur from Jakarta on Wednesday, hopes to support Mahathir's "Look East" policy aimed at emulating Japan's economic success and enhance already close bilateral ties through such dialogue, they added.

Japan has sent such policy dialogue missions to some other nations and Miyazawa promised Indonesian President Suharto during their meeting Tuesday in Jakarta to dispatch one to that country later this year.

The move reflects Miyazawa's policy to establish a "new partnership" with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) beyond the current relationship in which Japan, as the dominant economic power, is the region's leading aid donor, investor, and trading partner.

Miyazawa will also visit Thailand and Brunei before returning home Monday. The other two members of the six-nation ASEAN are Singapore and the Philippines.

Mahathir has proposed an East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC), which excludes the United States, to cope with growing regionalism in North America and Europe.

But Miyazawa will stress at his meeting with Mahathir the importance of the U.S. being committed to the Asia-Pacific region in both political and economic aspects so that the region can continue its role as a prime mover of world economic growth, the officials said.

The Japanese leader will reiterate the importance of a continued U.S. military presence, in particular, to ensure regional stability and prosperity, they said.

He is also expected to tell Mahathir that Japan intends to play a more assertive political and security role, adding that the annual conference of foreign ministers from the six ASEAN nations and their major trading partners, including the U.S. and Japan, is most effective for regional security dialogue.

Another point to be emphasized is that Japan will try to have six other economic powers heed Asian viewpoints at the annual summit of the Group of Seven major industrialized nations in Tokyo in July, the officials said.

Earlier in the day, Miyazawa had an audience with King Sultan Azlan Shah at the National Palace following a formal red-carpet welcome in Kuala Lumpur's Parliament Square.

Miyazawa will later visit a forest research institute, receive a courtesy call by a group of Malaysians who were formerly students in Japan, and attend a reception with the Japanese expatriate community.

He will end the day with a dinner hosted in his honor by Mahathir at the Malaysian leader's office.

The Malaysian press gave Miyazawa's visit extensive coverage, with the English-language daily BUSINESS TIMES carrying his answers to written questions.

The newspaper said Miyazawa stressed the need to prevent protectionism in pursuing regional economic cooperation.

In this connection, Miyazawa said the EAEC should be based on open cooperation consistent with world trade rules and must not lead to the formation of trade blocs, it said.

"These are premises on which any new concept on regional economic cooperation must be based," the daily quoted him as saying.

Japan has remained noncommittal to the EAEC, proposed by Mahathir in 1990, under pressure from the U.S., which opposes the EAEC on the grounds that it could be a protectionist trade group.

Agrees To Support Sihanouk

OW1401073493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0702 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will exchange views in Bangkok on Saturday with the head of the UN peacekeeping mission in Cambodia about the situation in the war-torn country, a Japanese Government spokesman said Thursday.

Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Motoji Kondo said Miyazawa will meet Yasushi Akashi, a Japanese national who heads the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, when he goes to Thailand on Saturday and discuss with him the current Cambodian situation and the UN peace process.

Also Thursday, the Japanese premier reportedly agreed with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed that their countries will throw their weight behind Cambodian head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk to accelerate the peace process in Cambodia.

They also agreed that their two countries will cooperate with each other in rehabilitating and developing Cambodia, officials said.

Sihanouk heads Cambodia's Supreme National Council, a national reconciliation body which represents the four factions that signed the October 1991 Paris peace agreement which ended 13 years of civil war.

Says EAEC Must Be Open

OW1401060693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0421 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, in an interview with a Malaysian daily published Thursday, said Malaysia's

proposed East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) must aim for open cooperation and not lead to the creation of an economic bloc.

"Japan is of the opinion that all forms of regional economic cooperation must aim for open cooperation consistent with the principles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and must not lead to the formation of economic blocs," said Miyazawa in the interview with the pro-government FINANCIAL BUSINESS TIMES.

"These are the premises on which any new concept should be based," the article quoted Miyazawa as saying Thursday, the second day of Miyazawa's three-day visit to Malaysia.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed proposed the EAEC in late 1990 as a forum for East Asian countries to discuss trade issues, but the United States has denounced the grouping as a trading bloc since it excludes non-Asian Pacific Rim nations.

Japan has remained noncommittal over its participation so far to avoid antagonizing the U.S, but China, Vietnam, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have backed it.

Mahathir thus said he intends to raise the EAEC issue during his two-hour meeting with Miyazawa on Thursday.

Miyazawa said he understood the EAEC was proposed following concern over the uncertainty of the success of the troubled Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks designed to open up world trade, as well as moves toward regionalism in Europe and North America.

Miyazawa said the Asia-Pacific region has been characterized by diversity and openness which have served as one of the main sources for the area's economic vitality.

To sustain this, "it is vitally important that we continue to respect the region's diversity, promote even greater openness, and maintain and strengthen the open multilateral trading system," he was quoted as saying in the interview.

"For that reason, the most important issue for the region as a whole is achieving an early and successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round," he said, adding that Japan will do its utmost to realize this.

Miyazawa also pledged to continue economic cooperation with other Asian countries as well as pursue a more active political role in its bid to build a new international order in the Asia-Pacific region.

Japan's emphasis will focus on five areas—cooperation for peace and prosperity in Indochina, strengthening its ASEAN ties, bringing about stability in the Korean peninsula, supporting reform and openness in China, and greater links with South Pacific nations.

Miyazawa, who flew in from Indonesia, is in Malaysia as part of his tour to four ASEAN countries. He leaves Friday for Thailand and later to Brunei.

ASEAN also includes Singapore and the Philippines.

East Asia Meeting Proposed

OW1401143393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1414 GMT 14 Jan 93

[By Masanori Kikuta]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 14 KYODO—Japan faced another test of its leadership as Asia's most industrialized country Thursday when Malaysia suggested a meeting of East Asian nations ahead of the annual summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) major economic powers.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed made the suggestion at a dinner he hosted in honor of Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

It followed a request by Indonesian President Suharto at his meeting Tuesday with Miyazawa in Jakarta that Japan consider giving him a chance to meet the G-7 leaders as chairman of the non-aligned movement during their Tokyo summit in July.

Mahathir, who did not mention the East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) concept during his meeting with Miyazawa earlier in the day, made a strong pitch in a dinner speech for the idea he mooted in 1990.

It would make Japan "much more representative" if East Asian countries met before the annual G-7 summit to identify their common problems and present them in one voice, he said.

"This again should prove the usefulness of the EAEC," he said, reiterating that it is "not a trade bloc" as feared by the United States but "a mere forum of countries in close geographical proximity which also happen to have common economic ambitions."

At his meeting with Mahathir, Miyazawa stressed the importance of keeping the Asian region open to the rest of the world to prevent North America and Europe from turning protectionist, adding that this principle also applies to the EAEC, Japanese officials said.

Mahathir said at the dinner that Japan's participation in the reconstruction of war-ravaged Indochina "would make a valuable contribution to the peace and stability of the region."

At their meeting, the two leaders agreed on closer cooperation in rebuilding the Indochinese nations of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos to ensure peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

Miyazawa, who arrived in Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday on the second leg of a four-nation Southeast Asian tour,

told Mahathir that it is important to bring the Indochinese countries into the mainstream of dynamic growth in the Asia-Pacific region.

The two leaders also agreed to support Cambodian head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk as a man who can unite the strife-torn people to break the current impasse in the country's peace process supervised by the United Nations.

Miyazawa reached a similar accord with Suharto in Jakarta, the first stop on the eight-day trip which also includes Thailand and Brunei.

A senior Japanese Government spokesman accompanying Miyazawa said the prime minister will meet Yasushi Akashi, a Japanese national heading a UN peacekeeping team in Cambodia, in Bangkok on the third stop of the tour ending Monday.

In the dinner speech, Mahathir termed "historic" and "wholeheartedly" welcomed the recent dispatch of Japanese troops to Cambodia as UN peacekeepers.

At his meeting with Mahathir, Miyazawa renewed Japan's pledge never to be a military power and stressed the importance of maintaining the U.S. military presence as a stabilizing force in the Asia-Pacific region, a view also shared by Mahathir, the officials said.

He made the comment in connection with Japan's intention to play a greater political and security role matching its economic clout.

Mahathir was quoted as saying he does not think Japan will become a military power again.

Mahathir sought continued Japanese official credits to help Malaysia's further economic development, including an 8 billion U.S. dollar new airport project.

Miyazawa said Malaysia's average national income has neared a level above which such lending will be terminated.

He offered to discuss what kind of aid Japan should give in the future and in this connection offered to send the first "policy dialogue" mission to Malaysia in a month or two to discuss such policy issues, the officials said.

Mahathir also sought Japanese financial assistance to help ensure safe navigation and fight environmental problems in the piracy-infested Malacca Strait, of which Japanese tankers carrying crude oil from the Middle East are major users, they said.

Miyazawa said Japan's private sector has set aside 8 million dollars to help purchase equipment for a regional program to cope with oil spills and pledged continued assistance.

Earlier in the day, Miyazawa had an audience with King Sultan Azlan Shah at the National Palace following a formal red-carpet welcome at Parliament Square.

Minister Says 74 Percent Investment Achieved

BK1301112193 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Jan 93 p 14

[By Charles Raj]

[Text] Seventy four percent of the targeted investment of RM80 billion [Malaysian Ringgit currency] set for the manufacturing sector under the Sixth Malaysia Plan has already been met in the first 24 months, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz said.

She said that for the first 24 months of the Plan (1991-1995), RM59.2 billion worth of investments had been approved.

As a result of Government efforts in promoting investments, she said, Malaysia was set to achieve and even surpass the target.

Tne minister also said proposed capital investments approved by the Government from foreign sources increased by two per cent last year from RM17.38 billion in 1991 to RM17.72 billion.

She said it was clear that Malaysia continued to attract investments.

This was despite declining global investments from major industrialised countries as well as the growth of new market economies and newly industrialised countries that were also competing for foreign direct investments.

Rafidah gave the assurance that future Government policies would ensure Malaysia remained an attractive investment centre.

The minister said the Government approved 882 projects last year compared with 1,041 projects in 1991, a drop of 15.3 per cent.

Likewise, proposed capital investment declined by 14 percent from RM31.85 bilhon in 1991 to RM27.38 billion in 1992," she told a Press conference in Kuala Lumpur on the performance of the manufacturing sector in Malaysia last year.

She said France had emerged as the largest foreign investor last year with a proposed capital investment of RM4.09 billion followed by the United States (RM3.3 billion), Japan (RM2.64 billion), Australia (RM2.12 billion), Taiwan (RMl.51 billion) and the United Kingdom (RMl.28 billion).

Rafidah said another significant development was the rising trend of investment from the US and Australia. The US became the second largest foreign investor in 1992 almost doubling its investment from RMl.8 billion in 1991 to RM3.3 billion last year.

She however, expressed concern with the decline in approved domestic investment where capital investment decreased by 33.3 percent from RMl4.47 billion to RM9.66 billion last year.

"The Government is concerned with this declining trend and will address it in several ways."

Singapore

Taxation Accord With SRV To Be Signed

BK1301140193 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] The first round of talks on the double taxation agreement between Singapore and Vietnam will be held early next month. Senior officials from both countries will be discussing the draft of the agreement.

The visiting Vietnamese Finance Minister, Mr. Ho Te, said Vietnam is also discussing similar agreements with China, Malaysia, France, Belgium and Italy.

Mr. Ho Te is in Singapore on a six-day official visit at the invitation of his counterpart, Dr. Richard Hu.

The eight-member delegation leaves for Malaysia on Friday.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Thanks Khieu Samphan, Son Sen

BK1401010093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 13 Jan 93

["Message of Thanks from Prince Norodom Sihanouk to Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen"—dated 10 January; read by announcer]

[Text] To His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC]; and H.E. Son Sen, vice chairman of the PDK, commander in chief of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, and member of the Cambodian SNC.

Your highly esteemed excellencies: I have already received the message of full support for my 7 January 1993 message from you both of the PDK. I would like to inform you as well as your party that my health is gradually improving. And I would also like to thank you both and the PDK for the message of greetings.

Your excellencies, please, accept my deepest and warmest affectations.

[Dated] Beijing, 10 January 1993.

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk.

Sihanouk Cooperation With UNTAC Welcomed

BK1301044593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 12 Jan 93

[Text] On the morning of 12 January at the Sakal Muoy hotel, the government spokesmen, including Cham Prasit, Khieu Kanharit, and General Pan Thai, held a weekly news conference with the participation of national and international reporters and representatives from various embassies in Cambodia.

At the meeting, Cham Prasit said Cambodia has a shortage of 257,000 tonnes of food at present. The shortage was caused by drought which spread from the southern provinces of Takeo, Kampot, Svay Rieng, and Kandal to western provinces. Battambang Province, which is our barn and which was exposed to such a drought, has caused us increasing hardship. The spokesman added that to tackle the problem, the government will energetically promote dry-season rice cultivation by timely providing rural areas with fertilizers and by encouraging the people to use manure. The government of the State of Cambodia [SOC] will also strive to stop the unauthorized exportation of rice and to assist the repatriated Cambodian refugees.

As for Khieu Kanharit, he said His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk's decision to resume cooperation with UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] makes the SOC content. The SOC hopes that the prince will achieve successes in his historic mission of bringing about security and peace for our homeland and people.

Concerning Regulation 33 announced by His Excellency Akashi on UNTAC's rights to take legal actions against those who have seriously violated human rights, Khieu Kanharit said this is a good step because in the past the host party had been accused of a great many violent acts. The decision constitutes a suitable measure to repress cruelty. The SOC is always of the opinion that blame should not be placed only on the SOC, which is the host party. UNTAC is responsible for supervising the five ministries within the existing administrative structure, so it is also bound to share that responsibility. The regulation will enable UNTAC to fully carry out its tasks since it is not the SOC alone that is supposed to protect various political party offices and crack down on those acts of violence.

On the military issue, Gen. Pan Thai said this week the Khmer Rouge continued to shell Ta Hen commune, Bavel district, Battambang Province, seriously damaging the people's property and lives. In Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, the Khmer Rouge shipped troops and ammunition to Sot Nikom district in preparation, we think, for attacking Srei Snam commune in the near future.

With regard to the issue of UNTAC being accused by the Khmer Rouge of cooperating with the Phnom Penh

forces in shipping ammunition to Choam Khsan district, Gen. Pan Thai said this is an unreasonable accusation. UNTAC has never carried out such an action for it is against the Paris peace accord. UNTAC comes here to maintain peace for the Cambodian people and homeland. We have already been aware that the Khmer Rouge's accusations are completely unfounded.

Sihanouk Agrees To Sign Reconstruction Loans

HK1401130593 Hong Kong AFP in English 1223 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Beijing, Jan 14 (AFP)—Cambodia's Prince Norodom Sihanouk announced Thursday that he is now willing sign for more than 150 million dollars in international loans that have been held up by his refusal to endorse them.

In his third change in position in less than a week, the prince said he would sign for the loans—aimed at helping reconstruction in his war-ravaged country—if he was not held personally responsible for paying them back.

Sihanouk's signature is needed because he is chairman of the Supreme National Council (SNC), a body composed of Cambodia's opposing factions and meant to embody the country's sovereignty before general elections are held.

The prince, who is in the Chinese capital for medical treatment, made the announcement in a letter Tuesday [12 January] to Yasushi Akashi, chief of the U.N. peacekeeping force in Cambodia, and Premier Hun Sen of the Phnom Penh government.

In the letter, which was released Thursday [14 January], Sihanouk said he would sign the loans if the two officials and lending bodies "write official letters to me giving formal assurance that my signatures affixed to these agreements do not and will not give me responsibility in any way for Cambodia's debts and the repayment of these debts."

The loans involve 72 million dollars from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), 70 million dollars from the World Bank and 10 million dollars from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Only Saturday, the prince had said he "definitively" refused to sign the loans, saying he would leave the job up to the government formed after the general elections expected in April or May.

Sihanouk, who has been labelled "the mercurial prince" for his frequent changes in stance, announced his first change in position Saturday, indicating he was willing to work again with the United Nations after accusing it of failing to stop the killing of his supporters by the rival Khmer Rouge faction.

He also reversed a previous statement that he would not stand in Cambodia's presidential elections.

Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Soonsiri and Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas are both scheduled to come to Beijing early next week for talks with the prince in a bid to rescue the faltering Cambodian peace process.

The factions are to come together at the end of the month for a meeting called by the prince at his residence here.

A 13-year civil war officially ended with the signing of the Paris peace agreement in October 1991, but the Khmer Rouge faction has frequently violated the ceasefire and is accused of refusing to abide by the accord.

Spokesman Condemns 'Khmer Rouge' Attack

BK1301135593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 13 Jan 93

["Communique of the Office of the Spokesman of the State of Cambodia's Government," on 13 January—read by announcer]

[Text] According to reports from Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, at 1130 on the night of 12 January, a group of about 60 Khmer Rouge soldiers from 612th Division launched an attack on the poll registration office of the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] at Ang Krong village, Kantreang commune, Siem Reap district, killing two Cambodian women who were UNTAC election team members and a boy, wounding two UNTAC civilian officers, and burning down a villager's house and a UNTAC house.

We strongly condemn this crime, which was clearly aimed at destroying the entire peace process.

UNTAC Accused of Colluding With Vietnam

BK1401023993 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 13 Jan 93

["Opinion" of the people living in the region of Pailin]

[Text] Since late December 1992, the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] aggressors and their puppets have marshalled many thousands of troops in an attempt to attack and retake the region of Pailin from the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] in gross violation of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord. The people in the region have noted that while the Yuon aggressor and puppet troops were attacking the Pailin region, the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] team in the region was painstakingly and actively maneuvering in an odd manner and some UNTAC leaders went so far as to personally gather intelligence in the PDK-controlled areas in order to assist the Yuon aggressor forces and puppet troops in striking the PDK.

The Pailin region's people have also disclosed that according to puppet soldiers rallying to the side of the PDK, UNTAC leaders have even paid the Yuon and

puppet troops to attack Democratic Kampuchea forces. This is clear evidence that the UNTAC leaders have gradually become involved with the Yuon aggressors and traitorous puppets in military activities. The people wonder whether the collusion between UNTAC leaders and the Yuon aggressors and traitorous puppets is in conformity with the Paris accord, whether the issue of the Vietnamese withdrawal from Cambodia can be resolved, and whether Cambodia can recover peace. The answer is no.

UNTAC's assistance to the Yuon aggressors and their puppets will only inflame the war in Cambodia. With UNTAC's help, the Yuon and puppets have jointly intensified their activities, including attacks on the PDK-controlled regions and have carried out terrorist and fascist acts to bully, intimidate, and shoot members of the public and various political parties. Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and Supreme National Council [SNC] chairman, has said that those responsible for preventing Cambodia from regaining independence, peace, and territorial integrity as well as for the terrorist and fascist acts against the Cambodian people are the traitorous puppets and UNTAC leaders.

The people say Cambodia can only recover independence, peace, and neutrality within its genuine territorial boundaries if the UNTAC leaders stop colluding with and assisting the Yuon and puppets. UNTAC should return to correctly, meticulously, and comprehensively implementing the Paris accord, especially the following key provisions:

1. The SNC should be given a role to play. This is to enable the council to carry out its tasks as the sole legitimate organization and source of power in Cambodia during the transition.

2. UNTAC and the SNC have to cooperate in controlling and verifying the withdrawal of all Yuon aggressor forces from Cambodia.

3. UNTAC and the SNC have to jointly run the five ministries.

UNTAC Said To Ignore Adopted Measures

BK1401054593 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Station commentary: "The Cambodian People Inside and Outside the Country Are Resolutely Opposed to the Fact That Akashi, the Chief of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, Has Continued To Repeatedly Adopt Measures and Then Ignore Them as Part of His Maneuver To Mislead the National and International Public, and, in the Meantime, Allow the Yuon Aggressors and Their Puppets To Continue Eradicating the Cambodian Nation, People, and Race at Will"]

[Text] The Cambodian people both inside and outside the country have noted that the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] chief, Akashi, has a habit of adopting this or that measure. And even before and after his trip to Beijing, he said that he would take action to repress cruelty and so on. However, in practice, Akashi and UNTAC have not executed any action to crush the cruel activities committed by the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] and puppets at all. Akashi ignores the measures he has adopted because this is merely part of his action aimed at misleading the national and international public.

The Cambodian people are of the opinion that Akashi's maneuver is to provide the Yuon and traitorous puppets with the opportunity to continue eradicating the Cambodian nation and race. They are resolutely against this since they have more clearly seen that Akashi is a bad person who has helped and colluded with the Yuon and puppets in implementing the strategy and tactics of destroying the Cambodian national resistance forces, specifically crushing the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], thereby decimating the Cambodian nation, people, and race.

The Cambodian nation and people wish to tell UNTAC chiefs Akashi and Sanderson that if they are to assume their prescribed duties and come to Cambodia as United Nations representatives to restore peace to the country, then they should not listen to or collude with the Yuon aggressors and allow the invaders and their puppets to eradicate the Cambodian nation, people, and race. Both of them should correctly and meticulously respect and abide by the 23 October 1991 Paris accord, especially the following key provisions:

1. The Supreme National Council [SNC] should be given a role to play as the unique legitimate organization and source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period;

2. UNTAC must cooperate with the SNC in controlling and verifying the Vietnamese presence; and

3. UNTAC and the SNC should cooperate in running the five ministries.

If Akashi, Sanderson, and other UNTAC leaders do not implement the Paris accord, specifically the above key provisions, then the Cambodian nation and the Cambodian people inside and outside the country as well as the Cambodian national resistance forces must join hands to resolutely carry on the struggle. They will never allow themselves to be slain by the UNTAC leaders and the Yuon aggressors and their puppets at will.

Princess Monique Receives Thai Princess

BK1301054093 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthon, daughter of the king of Thailand, visited Tevea

Vinichhay Palace on the afternoon of 13 January to pay a courtesy call and thank the princess consort [Monique Sihanouk] for the reception granted to her during her visit to Cambodia.

Also present were His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia [SOC], and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC], and his wife; H.E. Kong Sam-ol, vice chairman of the SOC's Council of Ministers, and his wife; H.E. Im Chhunlim, education minister and SNC member, and his wife; H.E. Son Sann, chairman of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party and SNC member, and his wife; and Prince Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party and SNC member, and his wife, as well as other members of the royal family and officials.

After a 15-minute audience, the princess consort hosted a reception with dances performed by the School of Fine Arts in honor of the Thai princess.

Indonesia

Miyazawa Leaves for Kuala Lumpur on 13 Jan

OW1301085193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0734 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Jakarta, Jan. 13 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa left Jakarta for Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday after winding up a three-day visit to Indonesia, the first stop on a four-nation Southeast Asian tour.

Before departure, Miyazawa bid farewell to Indonesian President Suharto at the Merdeka Palace following a visit to the 120-hectare Taman Mini National Park in eastern Jakarta.

Upon arrival in Kuala Lumpur, Miyazawa will receive a courtesy call by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed.

The two leaders will have a formal meeting at Mahathir's office Thursday after he gives Miyazawa a red-carpet welcome at parliament house.

Miyazawa will visit Thailand and Brunei before returning home Monday to complete his second Asian trip since becoming prime minister in 1991. He went to South Korea a year ago.

The four countries on his current eight-day tour are all members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which also includes Singapore and the Philippines.

Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and Philippine President Fidel Ramos are expected to visit Tokyo later this year.

Alatas Calls Portuguese Attitude Hypocritical

BK1401063693 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0403 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 14 (OANA/ANTARA)—The attitude of the Portuguese Government is hypocritical as it has turned out to be displeased with a televised interview with Xanana Gusmao, the former leader of the East Timor trouble maker group (GPK) [Security Disturbance Movement] who was arrested in Novermber last year, by Portugal's own television journalists, according to Foreign Minister Ali Alatas.

Our ministry received a report that the Portuguese prime minister and foreign minister were displeased with the televised interview conducted by Portuguese journalists with Xanana Gusmao, Alatas said after seeing off the visiting Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa who was to leave for Malaysia on Wednesday.

Quoting a news report of the Anglo Portuguese Agency, Alatas said that the Portuguese Government intended to reprimand the country's two television companies, SIC and RTP [expansions unknown], whose reporters came to Indonesia for the interview.

Alatas pointed out in the past Portugal had always called on Indonesia to ease the entry of foreign journalists, including Portuguese journalists, to cover East Timor.

The reporters' televised interview with Xanana, the screening of which had not gone through any censorship, was regarded to be against the interest of Portugal, Alatas noted.

So my comment on this is that the event indicated the hypocricy of that country. It is evident that the interpretation of freedom of press is always biased in a sense that the negative aspect is often directed to Indonesia, while the positive one is for Portugal, Alatas stressed.

As to the recent Portugal-Indonesia meeting at the United Nations headquarters in New York, the minister disclosed that the dicussion focusing on East Timor wound up with little desired results.

Alatas expressed his hope the next meeting planned to be held in Rome in April will be able to make progress toward the protracted dispute over East Timor.

Touching on Japanese view toward the Cambodian settlement, he revealed that the government of Premier Miyazawa strongly supported the steps taken by the United Nations, especially like what has been conducted by France and Indonesia in a move to seek solution over the war-ravaged country.

According to Alatas, Japan viewed that the steps taken by Indonesia and France on Cambodia as very important for making a breakthrough over a deadlock confronting the Cambodian issue.

Xanana's File To Be Submitted to Prosecution

BK1401102493 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0947 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 14 (OANA/ANTARA)—The file of the case of the leader of the Security Disturbing Movement (GPK) in East Timor, Xanana Gusmao, who was captured last November, will be submitted soon to the prosecution office, police spokesman Brigadier General Sumarsono said here on Thursday.

So far more than 30 witnesses have been heard in connection with the criminal case of the GPK leader, he said.

Most probably it will be before the end of the month, he said adding that the commander of the police has already asked for the submission of the file before the end of January.

Brig. Gen. Sumarsono said that Xanana had refused to be accompanied by a lawyer during the interrogation.

Sumarsono said he believed that the government would seek efforts to make him willing to be accompanied by a lawyer in the court.

He said that Xanana's case is handled in coordination with the related offices so that it is unlikely that there will be a to-and-fro process.

Xanana who had been wanted for 16 years was captured undefiantly in his hiding place in Lahae, Dili, on November 20 last year.

All the 21 KOPASSUS (Army Special Unit) members involved in the operation have been awarded rank promotion.

Xanana To Be Tried in Dili Court in Feb

BK1401104693 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1006 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 14 (OANA/ANTARA)—Xanana Gusmao (47), the leader of the Security Disturbing Movement (GPK) in East Timor who was captured in November last year, will be tried in February on charges of attempting an attack against the government, separatism and illegally possessing firearms.

The file of his interrogation is expected to finish this month for immediate submission to the court, Attorney General Singgih said here on Thursday after reporting the process of Xanana's examination to President Suharto.

The attorney general said that Xanana would be tried in an open session so that everyone including non-blacklisted foreigners might come to witness the trial process.

Xanana's court sessions will be held in Dili, East Timor. Singgih said that Xanana could face a maximum death penalty due to several charges against him but of course the decision is fully in the hands of the public court in Dili.

Xanana was captured undefiantly on November 20 in Lahae, Dili, by KOPASSUS (Army Special Unit) members. All the 21 KOPASSUS members involved in the operation have been awarded rank promotion.

Attorney General Singgih said that Xanana would be accompanied by a lawyer during the court sessions.

Alatas Interviewed on Asian Security, Growth

BK1201132993 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Jan 93 p 28

[Interview with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas by Jakarta-based BUSINESS TIMES correspondent Yang Razali Kassim—place and date not given]

[Text] [Kassim] From your perspective as foreign minister, do you see Indonesia as Asia's next economic dragon?

[Alatas] What we have seen as a natural evolution is the first of four less populous societies driven, by high discipline and purpose, to great heights of economic performance—Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea.

I think even countries that are populous and more difficult to move because of the larger populations ... have reached a stage where a certain momentum is being achieved. We hope to be able to reach a self-propelling growth stage very soon.

[Kassim] Do you see Indonesia and Malaysia as potential "pribumi [indigenous people] dragons"?

[Alatas] We are societies with different cultural values. But essentially, we are going through the same process as the less populous countries.

It's a combination of good and consistent economic policies, determination, financial prudence, good management, stable government. These are the ingredients for proper growth, and a free economy and a deregulated economy, as we call it...

Except that we don't like to stress so much on pribumi and non-pribumi. But we have different cultural backgrounds.

[Kassim] While your relations with Singapore and Malaysia have been good, they go through occasional hiccups, don't you think?

[Alatas] I think the bilateral relationship which Indonesia enjoys with Singapore and Malaysia are very close, very intensive relations, wide-ranging in many fields.

There have also been, although we did a lot already together, unresolved problems—border demarcations

that were postponed, little unresolved questions about to whom this island belongs or where the old colonial boundary runs and so on.

We don't see these as big problems, but they need to be tended to, they need to be discussed, they need to be resolved peacefully.

There will be competitive trade problems, I think. But on the whole, the picture that emerges is one that is much more on the positive side, and that is there is much more co-operation for mutual benefit, co-operation not only directed towards fulfilling or satisfying the needs of each of the countries, but also satisfying the needs of an expanding world market.

[Kassim] Singapore has been rather assertive on some questions. Malaysia has been assertive, especially on questions of Third World interests. Would this assertiveness come into conflict with Indonesia's perception of the world?

[Alatas] No. On the contrary, I think it's good that we all have our own styles of expressing ourselves. After all the dullest thing is if we all conform to one another, or are of the same mould. We have different styles, we have different personalities.

As long as these different styles do not reflect basic differences in substance, then I think it's good that we all each have our own personalities.

[Kassim] Do you think Indonesia's neighbours are still trying to adjust to Indonesia's presence in this region, Indonesia's style of doing things?

[Alatas] Well, I would like to turn this thing around.

I think you should also acknowledge that we have adjusted quite fundamentally from the years of confrontation and strutting the world scene under the Old Order. And I think that has impacted positively and extensively through the formation of ASEAN.

ASEAN was important because it was a watershed in the history of our relationships. Indonesia has been scrupulous in trying to implement it, sometimes even to the point that it causes a lot of criticism internally, saying "Why should Indonesia listen?"

But you are right. We are always and still in the process of learning how to be close neighbours and friends and learning to appreciate and to understand...

[Kassim] With China emerging as an economic power, would the old ideological threat become an economic threat for Southeast Asia and for Indonesia?

[Alatas] We hope not. They are now modernising rapidly. But no country including China, even the United States, can go it alone.

The major powers have learnt several lessons now in Southeast Asia—that solution by military force is not going to benefit anyone. Look at the Vietnam War. Has it benefited the United States? No. Has it benefited China? No. Has it benefited the Soviet Union? No. All have lost. Look now at Cambodia. After 13 years of war what have they got?

[Kassim] So you are precluding the possibility that in future China could turn out to be a threat to the region?

[Alatas] It could if it took the kind of policies, but we doubt it will see its interests in that direction. What gain would it have to confront us rather than to co-operate with us? And furthermore it will have to contend with other major powers, not with us alone.

[Kassim] As Pacific Asia forges ahead as a dynamic growth area in the post Cold War era, what is the security scenario for the region?

[Alatas] It will be a security environment that will not be any more wedded to the bipolar structure. It will be a much more multipolar constellation, much more complicated maybe in its dynamics and therefore for some time to come inherently unstable and less predictable. So that is the situation in the short term, in the transition stage.

Now with the changes in the region itself, in Russia, in China, in the United States, in Japan, with also new developments on the international plane, we believe that maybe some adjustments must be made in our earlier thinking about security. But, basically, we are convinced that we should proceed on the basis of ZOPFAN [Zone of Peace, Freedom, and Neutrality] and the Southeast Asia nuclear weapons free zone.

[Kassim] How do Japan and China fit into this scenario?

[Alatas] There would equally be a serious disequilibrium for a while if, for example, Japan were to go it alone...

If that happens, there will be a security disequilibrium to which all other countries must adjust, including the two.

If suddenly there is a diminishing of Russia's role or a strong surge of China's role, then the equilibrium has also to be adjusted.

[Kassim] With the end of the Cold War, will the conflicting views within ASEAN on the role of the United States in the region persist?

[Alatas] No. ASEAN has also no internal dispute on the fact that, for example, all the major powers will be there and need to be there. The question often put to me, and I am sure to other ASEAN colleagues, is: Should America stay? My answer has always been, that speaks for itself.

I mean of course America must stay because it will stay. It will stay because it's geopolitically part of the region. If there are different views among ASEAN, it is in what form the United States should stay.

Should it be physically present in Southeast Asia as it was before in the form of a foreign military base? Or should it take a different form?

[Kassim] Do you see the world coming back to the old historical drama in which major powers compete economically for survival and in the process, colonise smaller and weaker states such as those in Asia?

[Alatas] I think the world has vastly changed. I can't see the scenario approximating, or even getting close to, that taking place.

Yes, the relationship between the major powers will continue to be occasionally filled with tension and competition will always be there, not only among major powers, but also among all countries.

But the make-up of the world—increasing interdependence and integration, the technological advances that make this earth smaller and smaller, becoming one community, whether we like it or not, the globalisation of factors of production—all make for an increasing awareness of interdependence.

I don't think for the moment that any one country or even any one group of countries can play a hegemonic role and start recolonising certain countries.

Laos

Prime Minister Receives Visiting Thai Foreign Minister

BK1401103093 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Vientiane, January 14 (KPL)—The Lao prime minister, Mr. Khamtai Siphandon, this morning received the visiting Thai Foreign Ministry delegation headed by its minister Prasong Sunsiri, who is now visiting Laos (January 13-14) at the invitation of the Lao Foreign Ministry.

The Lao prime minister, on the occasion, discussed with his guest issues relating to the relations between the two peoples and the cooperation between the two governments. They expressed their satisfaction over the fact that many projects have successfully been implemented.

Mr. Khamtai Siphandon agreed that there were still [words indistinct] cooperation and mutual help that the two governments needed to continue their efforts in the interest of the two neighboring peoples. The discussion proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Leaders Discuss Cooperation

BK1401021993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jan 93 pp 1, 3

[Text] Vientiane—Laos yesterday asked for time without rejecting outright Thailand's proposal to build a bridge that would link the two countries with Vietnam.

Lao Deputy Premier Phoun Sipaseuth stressed the need for Laos to see the impact of a Thai-Lao bridge still under construction and to improve its road system and other related infrastructure, according to Thai Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sakthip Krairoek.

As a counter-proposal, Mr Phoun suggested a new air route that would link Thailand, Laos and Vietnam, the spokesman added.

The position of land locked Laos was spelled out to Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri during an hour-long plenary meeting that brought the two delegations to a government guest house here.

The plenary session followed a one-to-one meeting between Squadron Leader Prasong and Mr Phoun that lasted about thirty minutes.

The bridge connecting Thailand, Laos and Vietnam has been proposed by the Thai Government and business circles for the economic benefit of all three countries.

Although details are yet to be worked out, the bridge would link Thailand with Highway 9 in Laos and the port of Da Nang in Vietnam.

The proposal is expected to be raised again when former prime minister Chatchai Chunhawan visits Laos from January 18-20.

The plenary meeting covered political and economic questions in bilateral relations. The contents of the one-on-one meeting were not disclosed.

At the plenary meeting, Sqn Ldr Prasong pointed out that bilateral relations were improving, with no serious problems outstanding, the spokesman said.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the existing mechanism for settling any disputes that might arise, he added.

The two countries have a ministerial-level joint commission and two committees dealing with border issues.

Sqn Ldr Prasong also offered more assistance to Laos, including help in the improvement of roads. He noted that the purpose of his visit in part was to evaluate Thailand's aid to Laos so far, with a view of increasing its effectiveness.

Yesterday, the Foreign Minister presented Laos with four microscopes worth 21 million baht as a gift from Thailand.

Mr Phoun thanked Thailand for showing seriousness in the suppression of anti-Government elements. Thailand in October deported the brother of CIA-trained mercenary Vang Pao, who was reputed to have led hilltribe resistance elements against the government in Vientiane.

Mr Phoun also expressed gratitude for Thai assistance to Laos. Bangkok last year granted more than 90 million baht in aid to Laos, or almost half of the total aid budget earmarked for all three Indochinese countries (Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam).

Sqn Ldr Prasong led a 10-member strong delegation to yesterday's talks. He was backed up by National Security

Council Secretary General Lt Gen Charan Kunlawanit, Thai Ambassador to Laos Nikhom Tantemsap and officials of the ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Interior and Communications.

Led by Mr Phoun, the Laotian side featured Deputy Foreign Minister Souban Salitthilat and Lao Ambassador to Thailand Bounkeut Sangsomsak.

Following the talks at the Government guest house, Sqn Ldr Prasong paid a courtesy call on Deputy Premier and Economic, Planning and Finance Minister Khamphoui Keoboualapha at the Ministry of International Trade Relations.

Sqn Ldr Prasong went to Vientiane by boat across the Mekong River from Thailand's Nong Khai Province. He was met at Thadeua by Lao Deputy Foreign Minister Souban. Thadeua is located about 25 kilometres from Vientiane.

Sqn Ldr Prasong is due to return to Bangkok today after being received by Lao President Nouhak Phoumsavan and Premier Khamtai Siphandon.

Philippines

Ramos Approves Privatization of Government Oil Company

HK1201033493 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 12 Jan 93 p 1

[Report by Katherine Espina]

[Text] President Ramos approved the sale of the government-owned Petron Corp. over the weekend to help the government raise funds for its economic pump-priming program.

Petron, an oil company, is the most profitable government corporation. In 1991, it had net sales of P43 billion [Philippine pesos], the biggest among the country's top 50 corporations.

Sources in Malacanang said the President approved the sale this year of Petron during the one-day workshop on pump-priming. It was not clear at what price the firm, which belongs to Philippine National Oil Co. (PNOC), would be sold.

But sources said the proceeds of the sale would not be enough to fund the P50.19 billion the government has to raise for its development projects, mostly involving infrastructure.

The government is aiming at a 7.5 percent annual growth over the next six years, and privatization is one way to raise funds to fuel that growth.

Petron is one of the big ticket items the government has put up for sale. There were no agreements reached in the case of Manila Hotel, another prized asset, sources said.

The government, however, has decided that Philippine National Bank (PNB) will be turned over to private hands within the year, sources said.

Monico Jacob, PNOC president, earlier said he was willing to let go of Petron to back the government's privatization drive.

Finance Secretary Ramon del Rosario, chairman of the Committee on Privatization (COP), said the government planned to retain 35 percent of the company's outstanding stock. Another 30-35 percent will be sold to a foreign investor and the balance will be disposed off through the stock market.

Petron's sale will also complement efforts of the government to deregulate the local oil market. There are two other oil firms, Caltex Phils. and Philipinas Shell, both foreign-owned.

Petron's refinery in Bataan is the biggest in the country with a capacity of 155,000 barrels of oil per day (BOPD). Shell's refinery has a capacity of 72,000 BOPD and Caltex's, 68,000 BOPD

Rejects PRC Claim to Spratlys

HK1401055493 Quezon City MALAYA in English 14 Jan 93 p 2

[Report by Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] President Ramos yesterday said no country should dominate the Spratly group of islands, rejecting China's claim of sovereignty over the whole of the South China sea.

He told the Asia-Pacific Forum of his concern over the Spratlys as a possible flashpoint because of the claims of six countries including the Philippines, partly or wholly over the islands.

He said the conflicting claims have "provoked a mini-arms race of sorts." But he added it is fortunate that there are stategic imperatives that prevent the escalation of the conflict.

"For one, internationally recognized and guaranteed sealanes cut across the area, making it to everyone's interest that no single power should exercise hegemony over the Spratlys," the President said.

China claims the whole of the Spratlys while Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Brunei claim parts of the group of islands.

At the same forum the president also called on ASEAN members to build a stronger base for interdependence in their common efforts to achieve a more complex and competitive world economy.

Other concerns in the region, Ramos said, were the uncertainties in Cambodia, the unification efforts on the Korean Peninsula, and the acclerated arms build-up in many countries. "It remains for us to ensure that the new

world order does not result in a resurgence of narrow nationalism: That many small conflicts do not replace the single big one that once threatened us," Ramos added.

He said a wise recourse was to "arrange among ourselves an internal balance of political and economic power sufficient to ensure our collective stability and peace." But he did not say how this could be done.

The Philippines has sounded out the United Staes and Russia on their possible participation to provide technical and scientific expertise on a joint exploration of marine resources in the Spratlys, said Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo.

However, he said no formal invitation has been sent the concurrence of other claimants is needed. [sentence as published]

"'Parinig' [insinuation] is a better word," he said.

The U.S. embassy said it has been informed of such a plan. The Russian embassy did not issue a comment.

A top ranking embassy U.S. official said: "We've heard the expression."

The official said the U.S. has been supportive of efforts to find a peaceful solution to the six-nation conflict over the Spratlys.

Reportedly Drops Sabah Claim

HK1301150993 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 13 Jan 93

[From the "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] President Ramos said today that the Philippines will no longer insist on its claim to Sabah and will try to avoid any future misunderstanding with Malaysia.

Speaking before a group of ASEAN political analysts, the president said that any issue which may threaten the stability of the Southeast Asian region must be settled through cooperation, not through confrontation. Although the president did not touch on the Sabah issue, [as heard] he is optimistic that the ASEAN's current security problems will not worsen, especially now that the region is concentrating on economic development.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] It remains for us to ensure that the new world order does not result in a resurgence of narrow nationalism, that many small conflicts do not replace the single big one that once threatened us. [end recording]

France Seeks Broader Defense, Security Cooperation

HK1401031493 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 14 Jan 93 p 12

[Report by Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] France wants to broaden defense and security cooperation with the Philippines, visiting French parliamentarian Jean Gatel told BUSINESS WORLD yesterday.

Mr Gatel called on Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo yesterday morning and the two explored the possibility of establishing joint training programs, exchanging information on military issues, and French assistance with regard to Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] equipment and systems upgrading.

"To date only one Filipino officer has been trained in the French military establishment. We think there can be more. There are many other areas of cooperation, transfers of technology, for instance," Mr Gatel said.

The French parliamentarian, currently on a pulse-feeling swing through Southeast Asia, said France wants to heighten its profile in the region, underscoring the fact that commercial interests often complement strategic and political concerns.

"France and the Philippines have similar positions on several developments affecting security and stability in the world," Mr Gatel observed. "On Cambodia, where both our countries have peacekeeping troops; with regard to the Spratlys dispute, which we both have stated must be resolved through peaceful means; and, with regard to what is happening in the former Yugoslavia... we appreciate the Philippine position."

Mr Romulo was likewise appreciative of France's forthright warning to China not to resort to force in the Spratlys. That could not have endeared the French to the Chinese particularly at a time when Beijing and Paris are at loggerheads over the latter's sale of 60 Mirage 2000 jet fighters to Taipei, a move Mr Gatel describes as "pragmatic."

"We noticed that Beijing has retaliated against us (forcing the closure of the recently-opened French Consulate in Guangzhou and suspending several large construction contracts previously awarded to French companies) but not against the Americans, who sold even more jets to Taiwan," he said.

"We didn't want the Taiwanese to be overdependent on the U.S.," Mr Gatel said.

French interest in the Spratlys may soon be manifested more concretely in the coming Spratlys working group meeting on marine scientific exchanges to be hosted by the Philippines. "Pourquoi pas (Why not)? We have the expertise (Jacque Cousteau, for example)," Mr Gatel remarked. Mr Romulo said France would be "welcome to participate depending on the concurrence of the other claimant states."

During his visit here over the next few days, Mr Gatel will be meeting with Defense Secretary Renato de Villa, DND [Department of National Defense] Chief Lisandro Abadia, National Security Council chief Jose Almonte,

and Congressmen Jose Yap (House Defense Committee chairman) and Jaime Lopez (House Foreign Relations Committee chairman).

Asked whether France would be willing to sell aircraft, naval vessels, and other equipment vital to developing a Philippine external defense capability, Mr Gatel said that was a "possibility," noting that "the Philippines has been overly committed to one country, n'est ce pas?"

Communist Leader Outlines Peace Talks Status

HK1401042093 Quezon City ABS-CBN 2 Television in English 1430 GMT 12 Jan 93

[Telephone interview with Jose Maria (Joma) Sison, founding chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines and consultant to the National Democratic Front in Utrecht, The Netherlands, by host Loren Legarda on the program "Inside Story", from ABS-CBN Studios in Quezon City—live or recorded]

[Text] [Legarda] Joining us on "Inside Story" is the founding chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and consultant of the National Democratic Front, Mr. Jo Maria Sison. Good evening, Joma.

[Sison] Good evening, Loren.

[Legarda] Joma, could you tell us what exactly are the prospects for peace at this point in time?

[Sison] I think there is a lot of hard work ahead. There are the exploratory talks that must be pursued between the representatives of the Manila government and the National Democratic Front [NDF].

[Legarda] The thing that is really stalling the second round of the exploratory talks, Joma, it seems, is the issue of a neutral venue. Why is it so crucial? Why is it so important?

[Sison] Well, the Philippine Government has already agreed to meet with the NDF abroad a number of times. The two sides have met through their representatives. So there is no new thing about having the meeting abroad. The principle is there must be the neutral character of the venue. And there are the conveniences and safety that are guaranteed when the talks are held in a neutral venue.

[Legarda] Joma, you had warned the Ramos government that [words indistinct] to conjure the illusion of a split within the Communist Party of the Philippines. Is the split within the revolutionary movement for real?

[Sison] Well, you see the worst thing that this regime is doing is escalating the total war policy. And there are the psy-war [psychological warfare] tactics being used to supplement the brutal campaigns of suppression being waged against the revolutionary forces and the people and their [words indistinct] are meant to sabotage [words indistinct] exploratory talks be conducted as well as the prospective bilateral negotiations that would be held after the success of the exploratory talks. Another tactic being used is recruiting renegades to make false claims against the revolutionary movement, particularly the Communist Party of the Philippines. So these tactics are not good. They tend to undermine the exploratory talks because they demonstrate the insincerity of the Ramos administration. And they stress the fact that the psy-war [word indistinct] or the motions of going through the exploratory talks are meant to support the total war policy.

[Legarda] So, Joma, is there a split within the party? What about Romulo Kintanar, Ricardo Reyes, and Benjamin de Vera? Is there a serious split between them and you?

[Sison] There is no split in the Communist Party of the Philippines. I have been well-informed by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines in view of my position as founding chairman and as consultant to the peace process. I have been given information that Kintanar, de Vera, and Reyes do not hold any responsible positions in the Communist Party of the Philippines and these are only a handful of people, who had issued slander [word as heard] articles, engaged in whispering campaigns, and who have done so many things against the Central Committee, attacking it as invalid and in no position to exercise its policymaking power. So these elements are doing the work of the enemy. And it appears that they have been imbued and encouraged in some other ways by the intelligence and psy-war services of the Ramos administration in order to discredit the leadership of the revolutionary movement and thereby decapitate the revolutionary movement. And so this is one of the dirty tricks of the Ramos administration.

[Legarda] So, Joma, you do not consider these three men as bona fide members of the CPP right now?

[Sison] For their own good I would say that they have no claim to being even members of the Communist Party of the Philippines. They have just come out of detention. They come from the hands which the Communist Party would consider as enemies and they make false claims against the leadership of the Communist Party. So I suppose that the Communist Party is in a correct, just position to disclaim whatever false claims that they have made regarding their standing in the revolutionary movement.

As a matter of fact, the leadership and membership of the Communist Party of the Philippines recognize very clearly that these elements are trying to discredit the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines because they oppose the rectification movement decided by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines. And the errors that are supposed to have been rectified are the worst, are the major ones, and these were the responsibility of these elements when they were in the movement before.

[Legarda] Joma, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Command Conference report said that military operations have drastically affected the strength, or cut the strength, of the New People's Army [NPA]. What exactly is the present armed strength of the NPA and how broad is the mass base of the NPA?

[Sison] Let's put it this way. The total force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines is deployed against the revolutionary movement in the countryside. The capacity of the Armed Forces of the Philippines is to concentrate only on nine out of 60 guerrilla fronts. The armed strength of the New People's Army is in the thousands. I cannot give you the exact figure but you know, if you consider that the military, the reactionary military, is capable of covering only nine guerrilla fronts out of 60, then the strength of the New People's Army is far more than what is being claimed by the Armed Forces of the Philippines. With regard to the number of barrios or villages covered by the New People's Army, there are at least 10,000—and that's a figure much larger than what is being claimed by the Armed Forces of the Philippines. The claim of the Armed Forces of the Philippines is only around 2,800. That's a big lie. The coverage of the New People's Army is still more than 10,000 villages.

[Legarda] Joma, you have been criticized for continuing to stay abroad. They say that your self-imposed exile has affected your clout within the revolutionary movement. Would you care to comment on this.

[Sison] My location is not important. You see, I did not choose to be exiled. General Ramos was the one who pushed Mrs. Aquino to cancel my passport and so I have been unable to return to the Philippines. You see, General Ramos is in the Philippines—like Romulo Kintanar. But their being in the Philippines does not make their position any superior to mine. The important thing is, do I express ideas that take up the basic rights and interests of the people? And I have made no claims other than being an academic man abroad and I have been ready to help in any way I can. I have been willing to be a consultant in the peace process. So I don't overrate myself. I try to see myself as I am and am trying to be of help in any way I can in order to benefit our people.

[Legarda] Joma, will the alleged internal problems within the revolutionary movement seriously affect the ongoing talks with the Philippine Government?

[Sison] I don't see a split in the revolutionary movement and I don't think there are problems serious enough to affect the solid unity of the Communist Party of the Philippines and the National Democratic Front. I think that the psy-war tactics of the Ramos administration using renegades is futile, is of no consequence. As a matter of fact, upon exposure of the kind of tactics the Ramos administration, including his National Unification Commission, has already declared that the representatives of the revolutionary movements to talk to are Mr. Jalandoni and others in the Netherlands, so there is parity about what the representatives are there on both sides [as heard].

[Legarda] Joma, how has the decline of communism in Eastern Europe affected the communist movement in the Philippines?

[Sison] Well, you see, what fell in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union is not really socialism or what you call communism. What fell were the, what you might call, sham communists and the revisionist ruling party and regime and, as you can see from the history of the Communist Party of the Philippines, there has been the criticism and repudiation of what is called modern revisionism or the restoration of capitalism. There has been bureaucratic capitalism that has grown, that has been growing, in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union since 1956. Now, they threw away the Nomenclatura, threw away its socialist signboard, and the members of the Nomenclatura are trying to take over privately the assets of the state enterprises. You have now an attempt to pursue private capitalism in place of monopolist bureaucratic-capitalism.

[Legarda] Finally, Joma, our ASEAN neighbors are surging forward economically and we in the Philippines are lagging behind because of the political instability here. Some sectors say that maybe it is about time that you, perhaps, give up your hardline stance for the country's sake. What do you say to this?

[Sison] The revolutionary movement is, in the first place, fighting for the national and democratic interests of the people. As the revolutionary forces belong to the people, they grow out of the people's conditions, they grow out of the various exploited classes in our society and they are the instruments for the advancement of the rights and interests of the people. They work for the empowerment of the people. At the moment, since the loss a long time ago, the political and economic system in the Philippines is that of a foreign power like the United States, and now increasingly Japan, and the local exploiting class of what you call big compradors, the export-import leaders and the landlord class.

So, you see, these forces cannot move forward if there is no addressing of the root causes of the armed conflict or civil war in the Philippines. There has to be a substantive agenda and it's a good thing that there is this joint declaration already approved by the GRP [Government of the Republic of the Philippines] and NDF and so the root causes of the armed conflict in the Philippines can be addressed in formal bilateral peace talks.

[Legarda] Well, with that, Joma, we'd like to thank you very much for joining us this evening and we wish you all the luck in your talks with the Philippine Government. Thank you very much, Mr. Joe Maria Sison.

[Sison] Thank you very much Loren, and I would like to thank the audience for listening to our conversation. Thank you, again.

[Legarda] Thank you. We will be back in a moment.

Thailand

Progress Made in Cambodian Refugee Repatriation

BK1301073793 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] The repatriation of displaced Cambodians under the supervision of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, or UNHCR, has been progressing as scheduled and another center will be closed down this month. Lieutenant General Sanan Khachonklam, head of the Coordination Center for Repatriation of Cambodians, says that that the repatriation from Site 8 in Khlong Hat District in Prachin Buri Province will be completed and the center closed down officially on 22 January. Following the closure of Site 8, displaced Cambodians that remain are in Site 2 and Khao I-Dang Holding Center. These Cambodians will be voluntarily repatriated, to be completed by the end of March this year. The voluntary repatriation program jointly carried by the UNHCR, the SNC [Supreme National Council of Cambodia], and the Royal Thai Government has been going on since 10 March 1992. Up to 1 January this year, 231,358 people had been repatriated back to Cambodia. There remain all together 124,959 Cambodians on the Thai soil. Lieutenant General Sanan points out that measures will be sought out by the three bodies involved so that those repatriated after 31 March this year will be free to exercise their voting rights in the upcoming election.

Agreement Reached With Burma on Joint Committee

BK1301024193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Jan 93 p A2

[Text] Thailand and Burma yesterday agreed to set up a joint ministerial level committee to oversee bilateral rlations as part of the ongoing constructive engagement policy, according to a Foreign Ministry press release.

Burma will be the fourth neighbour, after Malaysia, Laos and Vietnam, to sign such an agreement with Thailand.

The statement said the signing of the agreement has been scheduled for Jan 22 by Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri and his Burmese counterpart U Ohn Gyaw, who are to co-chair the committee.

The committee, following the model Thailand has with Laos and Malaysia, would handle economic issues, namely fishing and border trade, tourism and Thailand's technical assistance to Burma.

The border security however would continue to be handled by the joint military committee—the Regional Border Committee.

The proposal was mooted during the twilight period of Prasong's predecessor Asa Sarasin as part of Thailand's constructive engagement policy with Burma but Rangoon gave the nod only last month.

Thailand's policy shift to regulate bilateral relations with its neighbouring countries despite their different ideologies came after the end of Cold War and the lessening of military tension.

Thailand's proximity with Burma last year formed the basis for Asean's move to urge militarily repressive Rangoon to return power to civilians, a policy strongly criticized by the West which preferred the economic isolation of Rangoon.

Deputy Commerce Views Yunnan Trip, China Rice Market

BK1401073193 Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese 14 Jan 93 p 4

[Text) Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit has returned from a visit to China for trade talks. Talking to reporters upon his return, Churin said he had talks with senior officials of Yunnan Province and discussed the establishment of a joint trade committee. The Thai side will assign the permanent secretary for commerce to follow this issue. China expressed an interest in buying a huge lot of Thai rice, especially fragrant rice. Churin said China does not want low-grade rice because it has a surplus of about 10 million metric tons of it. China has to keep that rice for domestic consumption because it does not know who it can be sold to. So, Thailand will not be able to sell low-grade rice to China. Churin said Thailand's increased share of the Chinese rice market will help the low paddy price situation in the country.

Minister: Saudi Case Reports 'Must Be Clear'

BK1301032193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Jan 93 p 6

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan yesterday warned that official police reports on investigations into the three Saudi cases must be clear, accurate and contain nothing which was not based on fact.

Mr Surin said relations between Thailand and Saudi Arabia would be further jeopardised if police came up with reports which contained false or distorted information.

He said earlier reports alleging three Saudi diplomats shot dead in Bangkok were involved in smuggling drugs had been totally unacceptable to Saudi Arabia, particularly its Foreign Ministry.

He said the reports had angered the Saudi Foreign Minister as he saw it as a slur on his entire agency.

Mr Surin quoted the Saudi Foreign Minister as ruling out any possibility of drug trafficking as his ministry changed the people responsible for opening mail bags each week.

The Saudi minister also reportedly stressed that his government had investigated the cases and knew which information was accurate and which was false.

The deputy foreign minister said investigation results which provide clear answers to all questions asked by the Saudi Government would be instrumental in improving relations between the two countries and re-opening the Saudi labour market to Thai workers.

Thai-Saudi relations turned sour after three Saudi Embassy officials were gunned down in Bangkok in 1990. Riyadh has also applied pressure on Bangkok to speed up its investigation into the disappearance of a Saudi businessman, Muhammad al-Ruwayli, after he was taken into police custody in 1990.

Riyadh has stopped issuing visas for Thai workers to express its dissatisfaction over the slow progress in the investigations.

Mr Surin refused to say whether a timeframe had been set for police to conclude its investigation into the diplomat murders.

He said investigations had been continuing for three years so the Police Department may need some time to conclude its findings.

Mr Surin said he appreciated that the Police Department had made a serious effort to build a good image for the nation.

He also said Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut was very concerned about finding the root cause of the murders and improving relations with Saudi Arabia.

Mr Surin said he wanted to encourage the Police Department to solve the murders as arrests would prove the efficiency of the Thai police force at a time when all embassies are watching how the Thai Government, Interior Ministry and Police Department can work to safeguard the lives and property of their citizens here.

"The investigations are very important to the nation as their success will prove Thailand's investigating process is good enough to build confidence among the embassies," he said.

Mr Surin said a television programme featuring the Saudi charge d'affaires to Thailand Muhammad Sa'id Khuja complaining about the delay in the investigations was "outdated" and a re-run.

The Saudi envoy said in the TV programme his government had given Thailand three months to wrap up the investigations, but three years had since passed and there were still no results.

Gen Chawalit yesterday asked a Saudi diplomat to give the Government time to work on the three cases—the third involving the disappearance of jewellery recovered from a Thai national after it was stolen from a Saudi palace—saying the Government and Prime Minister Chuan Likphai wanted to ensure justice to all concerned.

He said he hoped the Saudi diplomat appreciated what the Thai Government was doing to solve the problem.

"From what I have seen in the police investigation reports concerning the three cases, I think the investigators have faced problems due to certain implications," Gen Chawalit said.

Meanwhile, a source yesterday identified four police officers as having most information on all three Saudi cases.

The source named the four as former national police chief Pol Gen [Police General] Sawaeng Thirasawat, Central Investigation Bureau Commissioner Pol Lt Gen [Police Lieutenant General] Thanu Homhuan, Pol Maj Gen [Police Major General] Thawi Thippharat and Zone 4 Provincial Police Headquarters deputy commander Pol Col [Police Colonel] Theppharat Rattanawanich.

Official Justifies GATT Complaint

BK1301040593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Jan 93 p 13

[Text] Thailand should complain to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade about a new European Community import quota for canned tuna and should not seek to negotiate a larger quota, a senior Commerce Ministry official said yesterday.

Even with a larger quota of perhaps 30,000-40,000 tons, Thailand's interests might not be served because access to the EC market under the quota would be made on a first-come-first-served basis, the official said.

The new EC quota of 74,100 tons per year—with a 10 percent per year expansion leading to a phase-out in four years—runs counter to free trade principles and Thailand should complain to GATT, the world trade watchdog, the official said.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said that initially negotiations will be held first with Indonesia and the Philippines to develop a common position as the major canned tuna exporters. The next step would be for Thailand to lobby ASEAN Economic Ministers 90 that the group's trade negotiators in Geneva—where GATT is headquartered—can prepare their position before holding talks with EC.

The new EC quota came into force on January 1 as part of the Community's creation of a single market without internal borders. Previously France, Italy, Spain and Portugal imposed quotas on canned tuna imports.

Those individual country quotas [are] no longer permitted under the single market.

The EC says the 74,100 tons was calculated from previous years' imports, but Thailand and other exporters

say the new quotas represent an increase in protectionism because EC markets that previously allowed unlimited imports are now restricted.

Under the new regulations, 85 percent of the quota is for original suppliers with the remaining 15 percent set aside for newcomers. The quota does not apply to Asia-Pacific-Caribbean countries that were formerly colonies of EC members.

America which actively suppressed drug trafficking to import canned tuna from these nations without customs tariffs.

By enlarging the quota, Thailand would be helping other countries more than itself, the official said.

Challenging the EC under GATT would also set a precedent that would benefit major suppliers such as Thailand, the source said. If the GATT Council rules that the EC has broken its commitment by increasing its restrictions, then Thailand would have full rights to negotiate with the EC and seek compensation for damage caused by the breaking of the commitment, the source added.

Under GATT's free trade rules, once lower tariffs or unlimited volumes have been committed by an importing country, the importing country has to negotiate and may have to offer compensation if the commitment is broken.

In a related development, the Cabinet yesterday endorsed a decision by the International Economic Relations Policy Committee to assign Commerce Permanent Secretary Phatchara Itsarasena to consult with other ASEAN countries on the EC's quota.

Also endorsed was a decision by the committee to notify the EC within this week—the EC's deadline for a Thai reply—that Thailand is unable to establish whether shipments of tuna a few years ago described as bonito sarda tuna can be verified.

The reason Thailand will give is lack of documentation from Thai exporters about the source and type of the tuna that was imported for canning and then sold to the EC.

The dispute has arisen because the tuna shipments were made under Thai government certificates that said the tuna was bonito sarda and therefore eligible for cuts in the regular tariff from 24 percent to 18 percent under the EC's Generalised System of Preferences concessions.

The EC has challenged 5,479 shipments, and Thailand has accepted that 800 of these were erroneous while the rest are inconclusive because of lack of evidence.

Decree Dissolves National Peacekeeping Council

BK1301062693 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved the draft royal decree dissolving the office of the National Peacekeeping Council established after the military takeover on 23 Feburary 1991. The dissolution of the office by the draft royal decree was proposed by the Ministry of Defense. All properties, rights, debts, and budget left with the defunct office will be transferred to the Supreme Command. The draft royal decree is referred to the Office of the Juridical Council to be scrutinized before being publicized into law with immediate effect.

Deputy Foreign Minister Concerned Over Bill

BK1301041393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Jan 93 p 2

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan yesterday expressed concern over the Islamic bill saying Muslim unity would be endangered if their spiritual leader, the Chula Ratchamontri, and other religious leaders were to be elected for fixed terms.

At present the Chula Ratchamontri and other religious leaders are appointed for life.

The senior Democrat MP, who is a Muslim, was responding to the Islamic Affairs Administrative bill proposed by New Aspiration Party deputy leader and Deputy Interior Minister Den Tohmina who wants the Chula Ratchamontri to retire at the age of 70. Mr Den's proposal has the support of imams in the South who have demanded that the term of members of the Office of the Chula Ratchamontri, the administrative body, be fixed at six years. The imams have also called for direct involvement in the selection of the spiritual leader.

"There is no guarantee that the proposed changes would make the administration more efficient," said the deputy minister, a veteran Nakhon Si Thammarat MP.

Dr Surin, the son of a former chairman of the provincial Islamic committee, said religious leadership and its appeal comes from hard work in the communities long before they get the recognition in public and this can not be achieved through the ballot box.

He said it takes a lot of time for any religious leader to gain recognition from the public which is a very different process from election.

Dr Ismael-ali, director of Department of Islamic Studies from Prince of Songkhla University, said last week that he was concerned about vote-buying if the provisions of the bill were approved. It will have a tremendous impact on Muslim unity in the country, he added.

Under the proposed bill, provincial Islamic leaders will have to stand for election every six years. Currently, national and provincial Islamic leaders hold their posts for life.

"Concern of such a vast magnitude by Muslims in the country must be carefully heeded. Their election will divide the Muslims in the country," said Dr Surin.

Dr Surin personally disagreed with any proposal to limit the term of the Chula Ratchamontri: "Being an Islamic

leader myself I have to be above any political conflict that may arise if the proposed changes were approved."

Asked whether the issue would rock the unity of the five-party coalition government when the bill is debated in Parliament, Dr Surin said he was optimistic that the matter would be resolved amicably by all sides concerned.

He said coalition members were trying to find a joint solution so that the Government could propose it to Parliament for consideration.

Minister Says Muslim Leaders To Support Bill

BK1301023393 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Jan 93 p A2

[Text] Deputy Interior Minister Den Tohmina said yesterday Muslim leaders had agreed to the proposed Islamic Bill and would support it when it is considered in the coming parliamentary session. Den said that during a series of meetings held throughout the South over the past week most Muslim leaders had agreed to the proposed bill which will limit the terms of Muslim leaders.

Talking with The Nation yesterday, Den said the majority of Muslim leaders accepted the main provisions of the bill proposed by the New Aspiration Party (NAP) which will limit national- and provincial-level Islamic councillors' terms to six years and impose a mandatory retirement age of 70 on the Chula Ratchamontri, the national Muslim religious head.

The series of meetings of imams was held to sound out their views on the proposed bill which was opposed by some Muslim heads. The bill to limit the terms of councillors and the national religious head would replace the present Islamic Act, promulgated in 1945, which allows both office holders to remain in office for life.

Den said he expected the results of the final meeting in Bangkok tomorrow would be the same as in the South.

He added that less than 10 percent of the country's Muslim leaders still disagreed with the proposed bill, claiming it would cause splits in the Muslim community.

"The bill will in no way cause divisions among the country's Muslims; that is an unsound accusation," Den said.

"We will have to accept whatever is agreed upon by the Muslim leaders, for the sake of Muslims in the country," Den said.

He said the bill would next be studied by an Interior Ministry legal committee before it is considered by Parliament.

Proposals Made on EC Tariff Reduction

BK1201051793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Jan 93 p B1

[Text] The International Economic Relations Policy Committee came up with two proposals during a meeting yesterday to tackle the European Community's threatened withdrawal of tariff reductions on Thai exports.

The threats follow the dispute between the EC and Thailand on canned tuna.

The Thai Government must inform the EC of its decision on the bonito fish dispute by Jan 15 and outline what action can be taken, said Danai Tulalamba, Thai ambassador to Brussels.

The first move will involve informing the EC that the Thai government has a system of investigating the supply sources of tuna, but that, in this case, Thailand has no clear way of proving the types of fish involved.

The EC alleged that Thai exporters sent tuna fish to the EC which did not contain bonito sarda as stated in the packaging.

Bonito canned tuna enjoys a tariff rate of 18 percent under the EC's Generalized System of Preference compared to the normal rate of 24 per cent.

The alleged fake exports, the EC insists, involved a total of 5,400 form-A certificates. The Thai government is now screening the certificates on a case-by-case basis.

The second move planned by the Thai government is to assign Phatchara Itsarasena, permanent secretary for commerce, to discuss with Indonesia and the Philippines taking the quota issue to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Asean believes that the EC's global quota on canned tuna imports, limiting it to 74,100 tonnes a year, is discriminatory.

The issue is being used as a bargaining chip in the fake tuna case, in which Thailand feels EC importers should share the blame.

But the question is whether or not the other Asean partners will be prepared to cooperate.

Deputy Commerce Minister Phaithun Kaeothong said Thailand's revoking of form-A will depend on further consultations with lawyers on the "wording", so as not to undermine the country's sovereignty.

Withdrawal will mean an automatic six percentage point increase in the tariff rate to 24 per cent. Importers will pass the increase on to exporters. "Although we cannot prove the cases, it does not mean that we have to withdraw the form-A certificates," he said.

The decision of the International Economic Relations Policy Committee yesterday, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchapak, will have to be endorsed by Cabinet.

About US$3 billion of Thai goods are exported to the EC under the GSP programme, out of total trade of US $5 billion.

Vietnam

Spokesman Expresses Concern Over Allied 'Attack' on Iraq

BK1401150393 Hanoi VNA in English 1444 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 14—Asked today by Vietnam News Agency to comment on the allied air attack on Iraq's anti-aircraft missiles along the 32nd parallel in the so-called 'No-Fly Zone', a spokesman for the Vietnames Foreign Ministry said:

"Under the excuse of punishing Iraq for deploying missiles along the 32nd parallel in the southern No-Fly Zone of Iraq, on the night of January 13, 1993 the United States and its allies sent nearly 100 warplanes to attack Iraq's missiles and command and control headquarters along the 32nd parallel on Iraq's territory. Vietnam is greatly concerned about this event and holds that all acts of military confrontation at this time will only make the situation tenser and cause more sufferings to the Iraqi people. Vietnam wishes that all concerned parties would observe strict self-restraint and enter into negotiations in order to peacefully solve the issue on the basis of respecting the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations".

Iraqi Ba'th Party Delegation Visits 9-13 Jan

BK1401071193 Hanoi VNA in English 0643 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 14—An Arab Ba'th Socialist Party delegation of Iraq led by Dr. I.S. Hamid, chief of the Office for External Relations under of the party's leadership, visited Vietnam from Jan. 9-13.

The delegation met with Hong Ha, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee (CPV CC) and head of its International Department and held talks with a delegation of the CPV CC International Department led by its deputy head Hoang Thuy Giang.

The two sides informed each other of the situation of the two parties and states, and compared notes on the Vietnamese-Iraqi relations.

The Iraqi guests also met leaders of the Vietnam Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organizations and the Vietnam-Iraq Friendship Association (VIFA). Khuc Van Thanh, vice-president of the VIFA and his Iraqi counterpart, Ariq Qata Suhain, signed a friendship agreement between the two associations.

Iraqi Ambassador to Vietnam Ahmed al-Azzawi was on hand for these occasions.

Ministry Spokesman Pledges Continued MIA Cooperation

BK1401100193 Hong Kong AFP in English 0931 GMT 14 Jan 93

[By Andrew Sherry]

[Excerpt] Hanoi, Jan 14 (AFP)—Hanoi rejected Thursday a U.S. Senate committee's charge that its foot-dragging had helped prolong the POW/MIA problem, but pledged to do "everything it can" to speed a resolution.

The committee reported that it had found no evidence that U.S. prisoners remained alive in Southeast Asia, but said Hanoi's reluctance in accounting for those missing had helped slow a settlement of the question.

"We energetically reject all information disparaging Vietnam's goodwill and serious attitute toward the prisoner-of-war/missing in action (POW/MIA) problem," a Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

"Because we consider the MIA issue is a humanitarian one, Vietnam has done and will continue to do everything it can to accelerate ... the process of cooperation between Vietnam and the United States on the problem of MIAs."

U.S. President George Bush has made lifting of the U.S. trade embargo against Vietnam and establishment of diplomatic relations conditional on Vietnam's full cooperation in accounting for MIAs. Hanoi's pledge to accelerate cooperation appeared aimed at reassuring Bush that progress would continue if he lifts the embargo before leaving office next week. Vietnam's official response came with uncharacteristic rapidity, just hours after the report was issued Wednesday in Washington.

Bush last month loosened the embargo by allowing U.S. companies to open offices and sign contracts in Vietnam, after U.S. officials reported unprecendented cooperation by Hanoi on the MIA issue.

Two U.S. electronics firms, Hewlett-Packard and Compaq, were the first to move, signing contracts with a Vietnamese company to sell computers in Vietnam as soon as the embargo is lifted, according to Vietnamese reports.[passage omitted]

Communist Party Plenum Focuses on Social Ills

BK1301151493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1117 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi, Jan 13 (AFP)—Vietnam's ruling communist party Central Committee is to conclude a plenum this week devoted to social problems, including those aggravated by the transition to a market economy, sources said Wednesday.

On the agenda of the plenum, which opened January 4 and should end by Saturday, are problems facing education, health care and social welfare, the sources said.

The plenum is also expected to adopt a policy statement setting down "conservative" guidelines for cultural activities, they said.

Transition to a market economy has widened the gap between rich and poor in Vietnam, with cutbacks in the public sector leaving wide gaps in the traditional "safety net" of the socialist state.

Many poorer Vietnamese, for example, find themselves unable to get adequate health care, as doctors devote more and more time to private practices to supplement their meagre state salaries.

Vietnam's communist leaders have also repeatedly warned against the dangers of "decadent" Western cultural values entering Vietnam as it opens its doors to foreign trade and investment.

Vietnam's communist party Central Committee usually meets twice a year to set down guidelines for applying the broad principles set out by party congresses, which are held every five years.

IMF To Open Representative Office in Hanoi

BK1401100293 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 12 Jan 93

[Text] The International Monetary Fund has confirmed that it will open a representative office in Hanoi. IMF officials disclosed that they are preparing for the opening of the representative office, which has been hindered for many years due to the United States' hostile policy toward Vietnam.

Meeting Reviews Computerization Efforts

BK1401065593 Hanoi VNA in English 0627 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 14—A meeting was held here yesterday to review the implementation of a UNDP [UN Development Program]-funded project named 'Centre for Informatics Training and Application'.

It was agreed that after nearly four years of implementation, the project had achieved all its planned targets. A modernly-equipped centre for training and application of informatics had been set up and placed under the Vietnam Institute of Sciences which is entrusted with executinng the project under the direction of UNESCO [UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization].

The centre held 2 training courses for more than 750 Vietnamese and foreign trainess on informatics. Besides, it experimented computer programs through projects at the Ministry of Finance, the government guests' house and the Dong Da carpet weaving enterprise in Hanoi. Upon the success of these experiments, the centre has deployed its computer service to many services and localities.

Telecommunications Agreement Signed With Australia

BK0801152393 Hanoi VNA in English 1427 GMT 8 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 8—Vice Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong received here this afternoon a delegation of the Australian Overseas Telecommunication Commission (AOTC) led by its General Director Frank Blount, which is in Vietnam on a working visit as guest of the Directorate General of Post and Telecommunication (DGPT).

Present on the occasion was DGPT General Director Dang Van Than. The same day, General Directors Dang Van Than and Frank Blount signed a memorandum on the cooperation of the DGPT and AOTC as partner with Hongkong and Thailand in building a transocean fibre-optic telecommunication line (TVC).

The memorandum also covered AOTC's continued assistance to upgrade Vietnam's international and domestic communications and its management of the national postal network. Australian Ambassador to Vietnam Michael Potts was present on both occasions.

Phan Van Khai Attends Price Stabilization Conference

BK0801140793 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 6 Jan 93

[Text] On 5-6 January, the State Commission for Prices held a conference to discuss measures to intensify the guidance on price stabilization in 1993. Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai and Minister of Government Affairs Phan Van Tiem addressed the conference.

After evaluating relatively comprehensive economic achievements in 1992 and results of the 1992 price management work, the conference discussed many measures to intensify the guidance on price stabilization for 1993.

In 1993, in order to contribute to the market price stabilization, the state pricing sector should coordinate with related organs to obtain better knowledge on supply and demand situation, keep close watch on fluctuations of production costs and costs of important commodities, and improve the information system on prices and marketing. The sector needs to closely coordinate with central and local sectors in the guidance for price stabilization and in establishing price stabilization funds. It also needs to quickly perfect the price management system, price policies and continue to deal with prices set up under the state subsidy system or prices which are lower compared to those of in the regional countries. It should continue the implementation of policies and national economic management measures in the development of the multisectoral commodity economy and the movement of market mechanism with the government's management through laws, planning, policies, and other means.

Minister of Government Office Sends Note on Land Use

BK0801104793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Jan 93

[Text] On 31 December 1992, the minister of the government's office sent a note to all ministries, ministrial-level and government agencies, and provincial and city people's committees.

The note identifies a number of urgent tasks for the continued implementation of Directive No. 77-CT of the Council of Minister chairman—now the prime minister—on preventing the illegal allocation, purchase, sale, transfer, and use of land.

To scrupulously implement Directive No. 77-CT and to immediately overcome wrongdoings, the prime minister requests that the chairmen of people's committees at all levels and heads of all sectors urgently carry out the following, which they consider as urgent tasks, to help implement the anti-corruption and negativism policies and restore social order and discipline:

1. All provinces and sectors must continue to scrupulously implement Directive No. 77-CT, especially provinces and sectors that still have not implemented or have done so for the sake of formality or perfunctorily. They must consider this as an important duty for leaders of ministries, sectors, and localities.

The comrade ministers, heads of ministerial-level and government agencies, and people's committee chairmen of provinces and cities directly subordinate to the central government are requested to report the results of the implementation in their sectors and localities to the prime minister before 31 January 1993.

2. Along with enforcing the anti-corruption and anti-smuggling policy, it is necessary to severely deal with cadres who have allocated land not in accordance with their jurisdiction or have taken advantage of the allocation of land to practice corruption.

Decisive measures must be adopted to prevent the illegal purchase, sale, and transfer of land under all forms among the people, state agencies and enterprises, and social organizations.

From 1 January 1993, all central-level and local state management agencies are not allowed to sell or transfer land allocated by the state to other units, or to build hotels and shophouses for themselves or to lease it to others, not in accordance with their functions. Files must be prepared for serious cases of violation to determine criminal responsibility.

3. Together with the General Department of Land Management, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Construction, and other sectors concerned, the responsible state inspector must organize special work teams to inspect or investigate violations in the management and use of land in a number of key provinces, cities, and towns.

These teams are authorized to deal with all infractions on the spot within the jurisdiction of the state inspector general.

4. The General Department of Land Management must direct and supervise all localities and sectors to satisfactorily implement Directive No. 77-CT and prepare the contents for a review of its implementation in the early part of the second quarter of 1993.

5. Comrade Nguyen Ngoc Triu, special envoy of the prime minister, must assist the prime minister in directing and supervising the settlement of all land-related problems involving state agencies, enterprises, and socioeconomic organizations.

Australia

Military To Join Strikes on Iraq Only at U.N. Request

BK1401002693 Hong Kong AFP in English 2343 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Canberra, Jan 14 (AFP)—Australian armed forces would take part in any further action against Iraq only at the request of the United Nations, a defence forces spokesman said Thursday.

The United States, Britain and France launched air raids against military targets in southern Iraq early Thursday (Australian time) in retaliation for what were said to be repeated violations of U.N. sanctions.

"It really is a matter for the United Nations to request Australian participation in the sort of action we've seen this morning," Defence Force spokesman Brigadier Adrian D'Hage said in a radio interview. "We've had no such request. If we do, that's a matter for government." Australia was aware the air strike would take place before it occurred, D'Hage said.

An Australian warship has been involved in the multinational patrol enforcing a U.N. trade embargo against Iraq since the Gulf War. The guided missile frigate HMAS Canberra was stationed in the Red Sea as part of the 40-strong multinational force patrolling in the area, and was due to stay with the patrol until March, D'Hage added, although it had not been involved in the allied air strike.

Australian personnel who were part of a 100-strong U.N. force monitoring and destroying chemical weapons were withdrawn from Iraq just prior to Christmas and were now in Bahrain, D'Hage said.

Pakistan Cancels Wheat Purchase Meeting

BK1301062693 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Pakistan has cancelled a meeting with Australian Wheat Board representatives to discuss an agreement to buy 400,000 tons of wheat. The move comes only a day after the United States announced that it was selling 550,000 tons to Pakistan under it subsidy scheme. Australian Wheat Board managing director, John Lawrenson, said the cancellation of next week's meeting is a clear indication that Pakistan now does not want to buy wheat from Australia.

Western Samoa

Prime Minister Criticizes Strike Against Largest Employer

BK1401075893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0716 GMT 14 Jan 93

[Text] Apia, Jan 13 (AFP)—A strike which hit Western Samoa's biggest employer and earner of 80 percent of its export income was Wednesday compared with a cyclone by Prime Minister Tofilau Eti Alesana.

Yazaki Samoa, a subsidiary of Japan's Yazaki Corp, opened here two years ago using 1400 employees to assemble automotive wiring harnesses for the car industry. Members of the 800 strong Yazaki Employees Association called the strike Tuesday after Yazaki rejected their demands to recognise them as a trade union and to increase the pay rate for the mainly female workforce from 1.25 tala (51 cents) to 3.00 tala (1.22 dollars) an hour.

Around 300 workers gathered outside the closed gates of the factory Wednesday morning before marching to the just-opened parliament.

Speaking to strikers Tofilau said he thanked God that Samoa had been spared a cyclone, but said the workers' actions were like one. The government had just been urged to find ways of improving the country but the workers were wrecking everything, he said.

"If you are Samoans who love your country, return to work," he said. "Those pushing you have no love."

Tofilau said the workers were showing disrespect by coming to parliament unannounced.

Saafia Leota, the association president until earlier this week, said the Yazaki workers were suffering and had turned to Tofilau and parliament as father of the nation. She said workers were being fired for no reason. Tofilau interrupted to say he could do nothing about that.

Association president Eseta Togo urged workers not to weaken before they dispersed watched by police. Secretary of the Trade, Commerce and Industry Department Tunaimatia Frank Chan Tung said Wednesday the strike would set back Samoa's industrial development by 20 years. If Yazaki leaves no other foreign company would want to invest and then the workers can all go and haul coconuts, he said. Tunaimatia said he was angry because he had been part of the mission that enticed Yazaki here.

Fiji and Tonga had been strong contenders, but Western Samoa won out because of its harmonious industrial relations.

"I don't know what we are going to say next time we go overseas," he said.

A garment manufacturer has machinery in transit to begin operations next month and would need 150 workers to start.

Tunaimatia said he was worried the company would now change its mind.

Yazaki has so far kept silent on the strike and has not said what they will do.